$1.00 U.K. 50p CAN.$1.25 | 1 AUG

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

EXPLODING FROM THE PAGES OF THE X-MEN!

© 1983 MARVEL COMICS GROUP

1ST DYNAMIC DOUBLE-SIZE ISSUE!

# ALPHA FLIGHT™

STAN LEE PRESENTS: CANADA'S GREATEST HEROES: ALPHA FLIGHT

# TUNDRA!

CREATED BY
JOHN BYRNE
LETTERED BY
JOE ROSEN
COLORED BY
ANDY YANCHUS
EDITED BY
DENNY O'NEIL
APPROVED BY
JIM SHOOTER

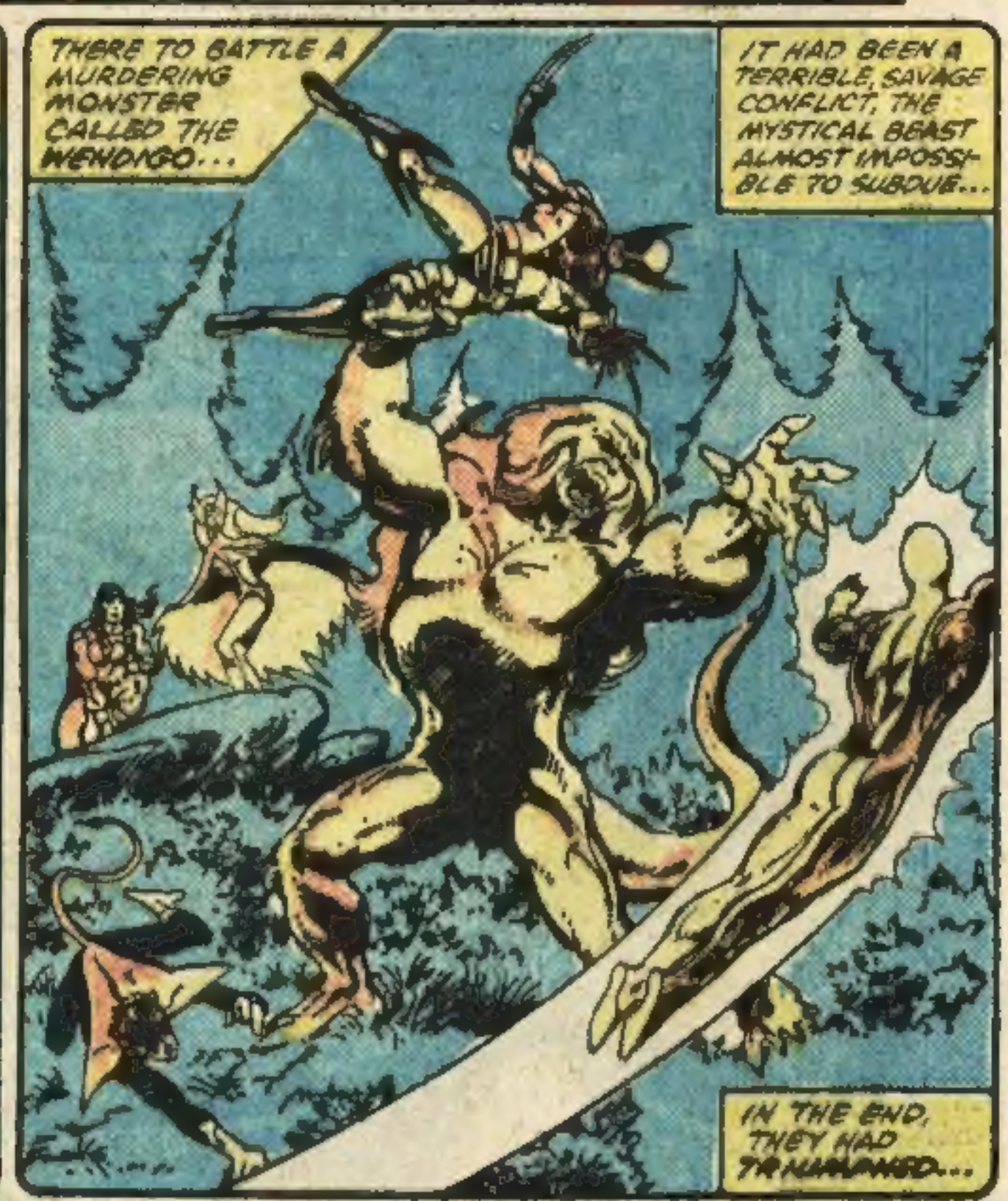
**ALPHA FLIGHT,™ Vol. 1, No. 1, August, 1983.** Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing, Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Published monthly. Copyright © 1983 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. ALPHA FLIGHT (including all prominent characters featured in this issue) and the distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. Price $1.00 per copy in the U.S. and $1.25 in Canada for this issue only. Subscription rate $7.20 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, $9.20. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept., Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

HE STANDS ALONE, LISTENING TO THE SILENCE, THE AWFUL BLUDGEONING SILENCE, SO GREAT HERE, WHERE ONCE THERE WAS SO MUCH SOUND.

HIS NAME IS **JAMES MACDONALD HUDSON**, THOUGH THE NATION, AND THE WORLD, KNOWS HIM BETTER AS **VINDICATOR**. HE IS A HERO, A **CHAMPION**, AND AT THE MOMENT HE WONDERS WHY.

SO MUCH TIME AND EFFORT, SO MUCH OF HIS **LIFE** WAS SUNK INTO THE COMPLEX WHICH ONCE BUSTLED HERE.

THIS WAS **DEPARTMENT H**, TOP SECRET BUREAU OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, HOME OF **ALPHA FLIGHT**.



FOR JAMES HUDSON REALIZES HE HAS CHANNELED SO MUCH OF HIS RECENT LIFE INTO H HE HAS LITTLE LEFT OUTSIDE IT...

I CAN PROBABLY SURVIVE. AT LEAST I'VE STILL GOT *HEATHER*.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?

"THE REST OF *ALPHA* I'M REASONABLY SURE OF. THEY'VE MOSTLY GOT LIVES OF THEIR OWN.

"BUT *BETA FLIGHT* IS A MIXTURE, STILL IN TRAINING. SOME HAVE LEARNED TO LIVE WITH THEIR POWERS, TO DEAL WITH THEM, SOME ARE LEARNING...

"AND *GAMMA*--WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO GAMMA FLIGHT? THEY'RE RAW RECRUITS. I BARELY EVEN KNOW THEM...

"ARE THEY READY TO BE CUT LOOSE AGAIN SO SOON?"

BEFORE THAT THOUGHT CAN BE PURSUED...

*VINDICATOR*? THEY'RE CLOSING THE POWER DOWN IN THREE MINUTES. YOU READY?

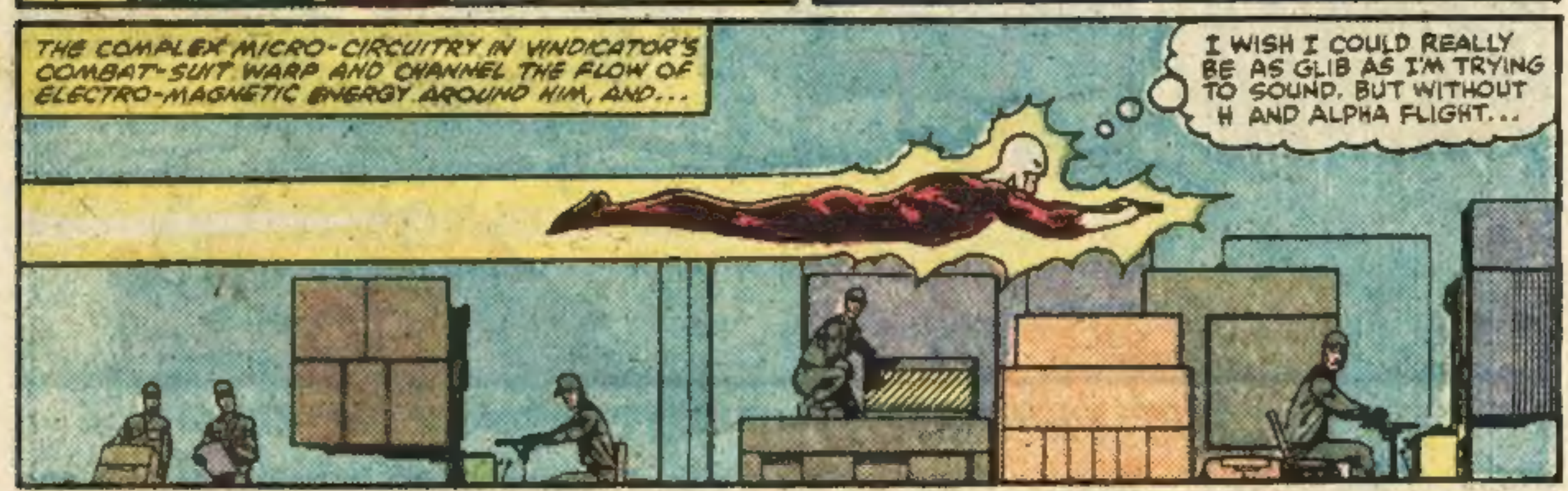
HM? OH, SORRY, CODY. I MUST HAVE LOST TRACK OF THE TIME.

YEAH, I'LL JUST BET YOU WERE.

I WAS... THINKING.

I'VE SAID IT BEFORE, I KNOW, BUT I REALLY THINK THIS IS A CRUMMY THING THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING TO YOU GUYS. IN FACT, I THINK ALL OF CANADA WOULD PITCH A FIT...IF THEY EVEN KNEW ABOUT IT...
I KNOW THAT, CODY... GARY. AND IT HELPS A LITTLE, ANYWAY. BESIDES, IT'S NOT ALL OVER YET, IS IT?

NOT ENTIRELY, I GUESS. I'LL BE KEEPING IN TOUCH, AS OFFICIAL UNOFFICIAL LIAISON.
AND I'LL BE AVAILABLE, SHOULD MY COUNTRY CALL. WHY NOT...?
AFTER ALL, I'VE GOT NOTHING ELSE TO DO.


THE COMPLEX MICRO-CIRCUITRY IN VINDICATOR'S COMBAT-SUIT WARP AND CHANNEL THE FLOW OF ELECTRO-MAGNETIC ENERGY AROUND HIM, AND...
I WISH I COULD REALLY BE AS GLIB AS I'M TRYING TO SOUND, BUT WITHOUT H AND ALPHA FLIGHT...

...I'M TRULY AMONGST THE RANKS OF THE UNEMPLOYED.
AND, WITHOUT MY STIPEND FROM THE GOVERNMENT, WE'VE ONLY HEATHER'S SALARY TO LIVE ON.

AND THAT WON'T GO FAR IN THESE DAYS OF THE 77¢ DOLLAR...
I WONDER IF CAPTAIN AMERICA HAS PROBLEMS LIKE THIS?

AND AS VINDICATOR LEAVES BEHIND, PERHAPS FOREVER, THE SECRET INSTALLATION BENEATH **PARLIAMENT HILL**...

NEARLY TWO THOUSAND MILES TO THE NORTH, AND WEST...

SUMMER IS COMING TO THE VAST LANDS OF THE **NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES**, BRINGING RENEWED LIFE TO THE ROLLING LAND...

TOUGH NORTHERN GRASSES POKE GREEN FINGERS THROUGH THE FINE DUSTING OF SNOW THAT STILL CLINGS TO THE TUNDRA...

AND IN THE MIDST OF THIS AWAKENING LAND, SHIVERING, COLD AND HUNGRY, IS A **MAN**.

A MAN WHOSE THOUGHTS TURN EVER AWAY FROM THE BURGEONING LIFE AROUND HIM...

A MAN OBSESSED WITH ONLY DEATH...

I'LL SHOW THEM! I'LL SHOW ALL OF THEM! THE FOOLS. THEY LAUGHED AT ME. THEY SAID I WAS MAD.

BUT THEY WERE WRONG! **WRONG! WRONG!**

HE STRUGGLES STIFFLY TO HIS FEET, EMACIATED, NEAR STARVING.

AS HE LIMPS AWAY FROM HIS SPARTAN CAMP ONE FOOT TRAILS A FURROW IN THE SNOWY TOPSOIL.

A SHALLOW THING, NOT ENOUGH TO LAST A SINGLE WINDY DAY...

BUT AS THE FURROW LENGTHENS...

TO EVEN THE MOST CASUAL OBSERVER THIS RANDOM STAGGER WOULD BEGIN TO TAKE ON A PATTERN...

A SHAPE, A ROUGH OUTLINE GROWS...

UNTIL...

THAT PART OF HIS TASK COMPLETED, HE SCRAMBLES BACK TO CAMP...

WHERE IS IT?

I KNOW I PACKED IT! I MUST HAVE PACKED IT!

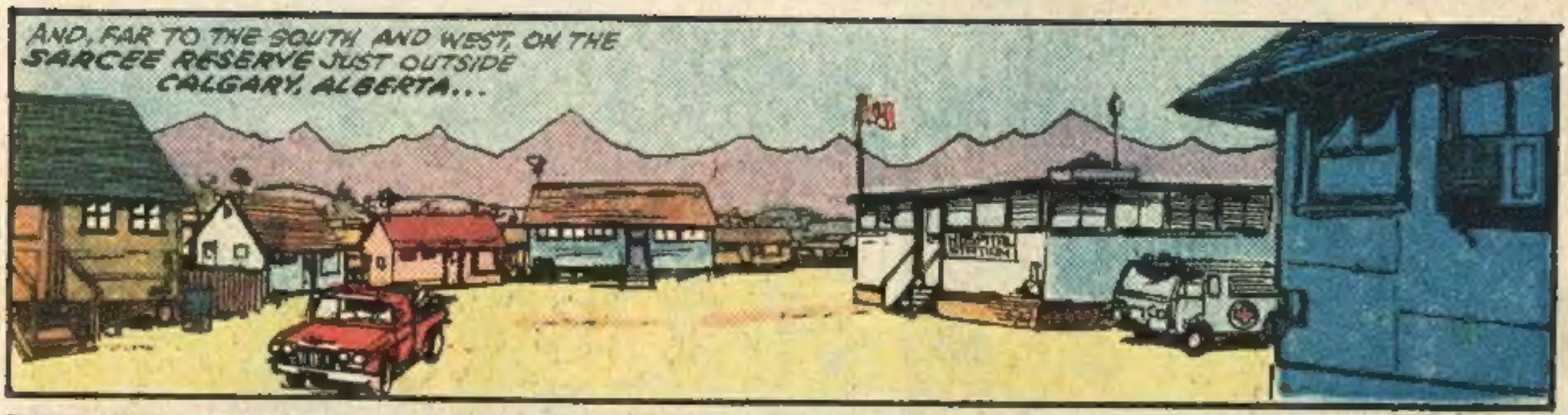
IT'S GOT TO BE...

HERE!

THE ANCIENT METAL TINGLES AGAINST HIS FINGERTIPS, ALMOST ALIVE...

ALIVE, AND WAITING.

IT BEGINS...


AND, FAR TO THE SOUTH AND WEST, ON THE SARCEE RESERVE JUST OUTSIDE CALGARY, ALBERTA...

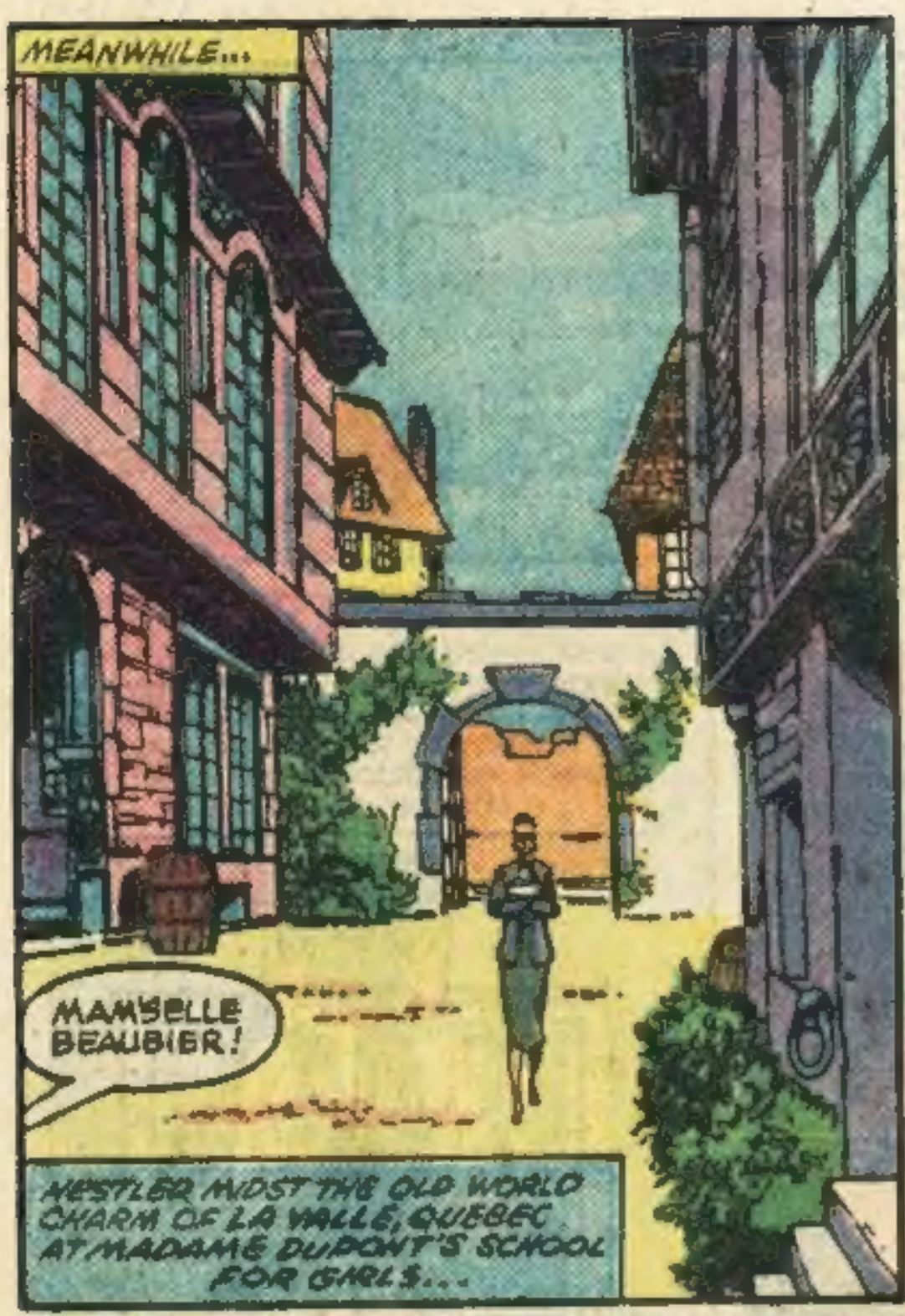
IN THE QUIET OFFICE OF DR. MICHAEL TWOYOUNGMEN, MD...
THAT PEACE IS ABOUT TO BE DISRUPTED...

GRANDFATHER...?

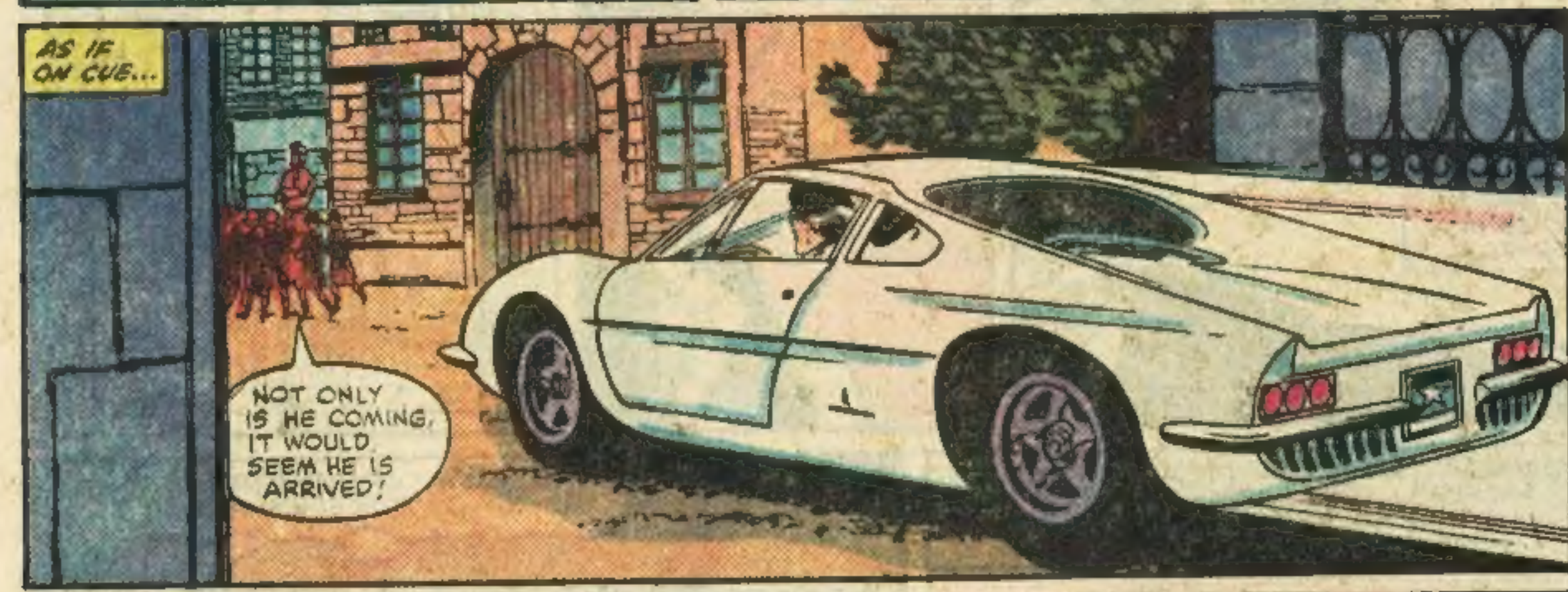
THE CALL IS MOST SUBTLE, THE BAREST PRESSURE WITHIN HIS MIND.
IT TOOK TEN YEARS FOR HIM TO LEARN TO RECOGNIZE THAT MYSTIC SIGNAL.

NOW HE KNOWS IT COMES ONLY AT TIMES OF GREAT PERIL. PERIL BEYOND THE WHITE MAN'S SCIENCE MICHAEL TWOYOUNGMEN WORKED SO LONG AND HARD TO MASTER.
PERIL WHICH CAN BE DEALT WITH ONLY BY THE SARCEE MEDICINE-CHIEF KNOWN AS SHAMAN...

SPEAK, O MY GRANDFATHER. THE SON OF YOUR SON AWAITS...


MEANWHILE...
MAM'SELLE BEAUBIER!
NESTLED AMIDST THE OLD WORLD CHARM OF LA VALLE, QUEBEC AT MADAME DUPONT'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS...

OH, MAM'SELLE, IS IT TRUE? IS IT TRUE? ANGELIQUE SAYS YOUR BROTHER IS COMING TO VISIT YOU TODAY.
COMING HERE! IS IT TRUE HE'S COMING HERE?
NOM DU NOM! MON PETITES, HOW DO YOU KNOW THIS THING? I LEARNED OF IT MYSELF ONLY AN HOUR AGO!
OH, SAY IT'S TRUE, MAM'SELLE. SAY IT'S TRUE!
IS HE? IS HE COMING?
THEN IT'S TRUE? HE'S REALLY COMING?


AS IF ON CUE...
NOT ONLY IS HE COMING, IT WOULD SEEM HE IS ARRIVED!

M'SIEUR BEAUBIER, OH, MAY I HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH...?
PLEASE SIGN MY ARITHMETIC BOOK. PUT "TO JACQUELINE WITH ALL MY LOVE..."
WILL YOU BE REPRESENTING CANADA AT THE WINTER OLYMPICS?
IS IT EXCITING TO BE A SKI-CHAMPION?
ARE YOU STAYING LONG?
IS IT TRUE YOU AND MAM'SELLE ARE TWINS?
WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST?
I THINK YOU'RE MUCH BETTER THAN KILLEY...
IF YOUR ADORING PUBLIC CAN SPARE YOU, JEAN-PAUL...

FOR YOU, BELOVED SISTER, I CAN SPARE A LIFETIME. YOU LOOK WELL. YOU HAVE BEEN TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF SINCE OUR RETURN FROM *NEW YORK?**

I WOULD PREFER YOU DID NOT DISCUSS SUCH THINGS OUT IN THE OPEN. COME, BROTHER, I HAVE TEA AND BISCUITS IN MY ROOM.

*SEE MACHINE MAN #18 - DENNY

WILL YOU BE STAYING LONG?

WILL WE SEE YOU BEFORE YOU LEAVE?

ARE YOU STAYING NEARBY?

OH, SAY YOU'LL STAY...

I HAVE NO PRESSING BUSINESS UNTIL FRIDAY, LITTLE ONES. I SHALL BE STAYING NEARBY UNTIL THEN.

BUT FOR NOW... WELL, I DID COME TO SEE MY SISTER, N'EST CE PAS?

MY ROOM IS THIS WAY...

UP CREAKING STAIRS TO THE VERY TOP OF THE SCHOOL...

NOT TOO FAR NOW.

MAM'SELLE BEAUBIER! YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD THE RULES CONCERNING MEN IN YOUR QUARTERS!

S-SISTER ANNE... BUT THIS IS NOT A MAN--I MEAN, OF COURSE HE'S A MAN. BUT HE IS ALSO MY BROTHER.

YOUR...BROTHER? THE FAMOUS *JEAN-PAUL BEAUBIER?*

THE SAME, ENCHANTE, SISTER. I AM DELIGHTED TO MEET YOU.

FINALLY...

COME IN, JEAN-PAUL. I'LL START THE TEA...

AND SOON...

SO, JEANNE-MARIE IT HAS BEEN TWO WEEKS SINCE *ALPHA FLIGHT* WAS DISBANDED.

IN THAT TIME I HAVE WRITTEN YOU PHONED YOU, ALMOST BEGGED YOU TO LEAVE THIS PLACE, TO COME AND LIVE WITH ME. TO COME *HOME*.

YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND, JEAN-PAUL.

*THIS* IS MY HOME NOW, HERE WITH THE NUNS WHO *RAISED* ME.

THIS IS NOT YOUR HOME. THIS IS A *PRISON!* A CAGE FOR THE BEAUTIFUL FREE SPIRIT YOU TRULY ARE. LOOK HOW YOU HIDE YOUR BEAUTY-- AS YOU HIDE YOUR GOD-GIVEN MUTANT POWERS.

DO NOT SPEAK BLASPHEMY, MY BROTHER. IS IT BETTER TO USE MY POWERS AS YOU DO, TO ADVANCE MY WORLDLY SELF?

THAT AGAIN? YES, I HAVE USED MY POWERS. USED THEM TO MAKE MYSELF A *CHAMPION*. AND WHY NOT? SHOULD A STRONG MAN NOT USE HIS STRENGTH, A GENIUS HIDE AWAY HIS MIND?

IT IS WRONG. IT IS *CHEATING* AND YOU KNOW SO.

CHEATING? WHO IS CHEATING HERE, SISTER? TO CHEAT IS TO HIDE THE TRUTH. WHO DOES THAT IF NOT YOU, WITH YOUR RIDICULOUS PRISSY CLOTHES, THE GLASSES YOU BARELY NEED FOR READING!

JEAN-PAUL!

SISTER, LISTEN TO ME! THERE IS NO LOVE IN MY HEART FOR JAMES HUDSON, BUT HE *RE-UNITED* US. AND HE SET *AURORA* FREE. DO NOT DENY HER

DENY HER? I HATE HER! SHE IS A DEVIL, A FOUL IMP WHO USES ME.

SHE IS *PERVERSE!*

SHE IS NOT! WHY DO YOU TEAR AT MY HEART THIS WAY? *AURORA* IS YOUR TRUE SELF, YOUR TRUE FACE, AS *NORTHSTAR* IS MINE.

LOOK! LOOK AT YOURSELF! THAT IS AURORA—THAT IS NOT SOMEONE ELSE. *THAT IS YOU!*

*JEANNE-MARIE'S PROTESTS ARE TINY, FEEBLE THINGS BEFORE HER BROTHER'S RAGE.*

*AND DEEP WITHIN HER HEART OF HEARTS SHE KNOWS HE ACTS OUT OF HIS GREAT LOVE FOR HER...*

*AND WHAT IS WORSE,*

*...SHE KNOWS HIS WORDS ARE TRUE.*

N-NO...PLEASE... NO...

JEANNE-MARIE!

SACRE BLEU! SHE WILTS AWAY LIKE A DEAD THING. HAVE I PUSHED HER TOO FAR?

DEAR SISTER, I WOULD WISH YOU NO HARM IN ALL THE WORLD...

BUT WHAT COULD BE GREATER HARM THAN THAT WHICH YOU DO YOURSELF?

CURSE JAMES HUDSON, THAT HE SHOULD BRING US BACK TOGETHER ONLY THAT WE MAY FOREVER BATTLE EACH OTHER, THUS.

AND CURSE THE GOVERNMENT FOR CLOSING DOWN DEPARTMENT H, FOR THOUGH I HATE MY PLACE WITHIN ALPHA FLIGHT I FEAR MY DEAR SISTER CAN HAVE NO REAL LIFE WITHOUT THEM...

WEST AGAIN, TO OTTAWA THE NATION'S CAPITAL ..

SPECIFICALLY '38 LAURIER DRIVE.

WHERE, IN A PLEASANT LITTLE FLAT UPSTAIRS, HEATHER McNEIL HUDSON IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF A RARE DAY OFF.

SORRY TO HAVE NEGLECTED YOU FOR SO LONG, GUYS BUSY-BUSY.

MAC!

HIS UNCHARACTERISTICALLY OPEN ENTRANCE TELLS HER ALMOST AS [illegible] AS THE GRIM SAGE SHE SENSES [illegible] AND THE MASK

WHERE THE HECK IS

SOMETHING TELLS ME YOUR LAST DAY ON THE HILL WAS LESS THAN WHAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN.

YOU MIGHT SAY THAT THE *PRIME MINISTER* DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO COME AND BID ME *ADIEU*.

WELL I DON'T VOTE FOR HIM. WHY DON'T YOU PARK YOUR CARCASS AND I'LL MAKE YOU A NICE HOT CUP OF TEA AND RUB YOUR BACK, OR SOMETHING.

HMMM. I KNEW THERE WAS A GOOD REASON I CAME HERE. WILL YOU MARRY ME?

SURE. HOW ABOUT TEN YEARS AGO NEXT THURSDAY OR ARE YOU BUSY THEN?

NO.. NO I THINK I'M FREE THAT DAY.

THEN, AS HEATHER PREPARES THE TEA...

DRING!

OH, DRAT!

HELLO? OH, HELLO, GARY. YES, HE'S HERE. WHAT? NO, WE DON'T HAVE IT ON. NO...

YES, YES I'LL TELL HIM. HANG ON A MINUTE...

THE ...S ...GH RIVER?

MAC, IT'S GARY. HE SAYS YOU'D BETTER CHECK THE CBC.

HM?

I MUST BE MISSING HIS FAVORITE...

WHAT THE...

LIVE FROM RESOLUTE BAY

...WHICH SCIENTISTS HAVE CONFIRMED IS NOT SIMPLY A MANIFESTATION OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS.

MAC, WHAT IN IN THE WORLD...?

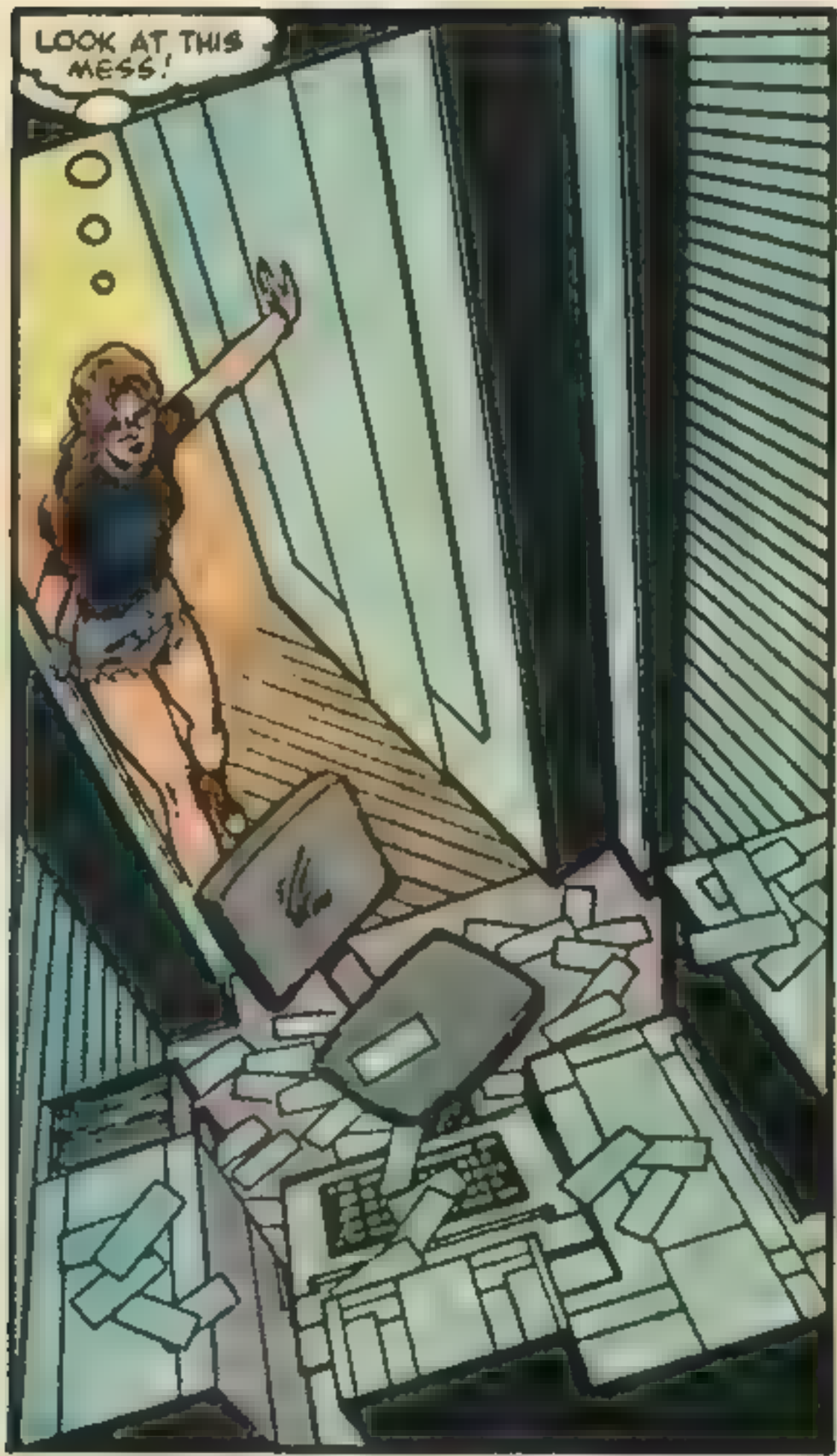
I DON'T KNOW. LISTEN FOR A MOMENT...

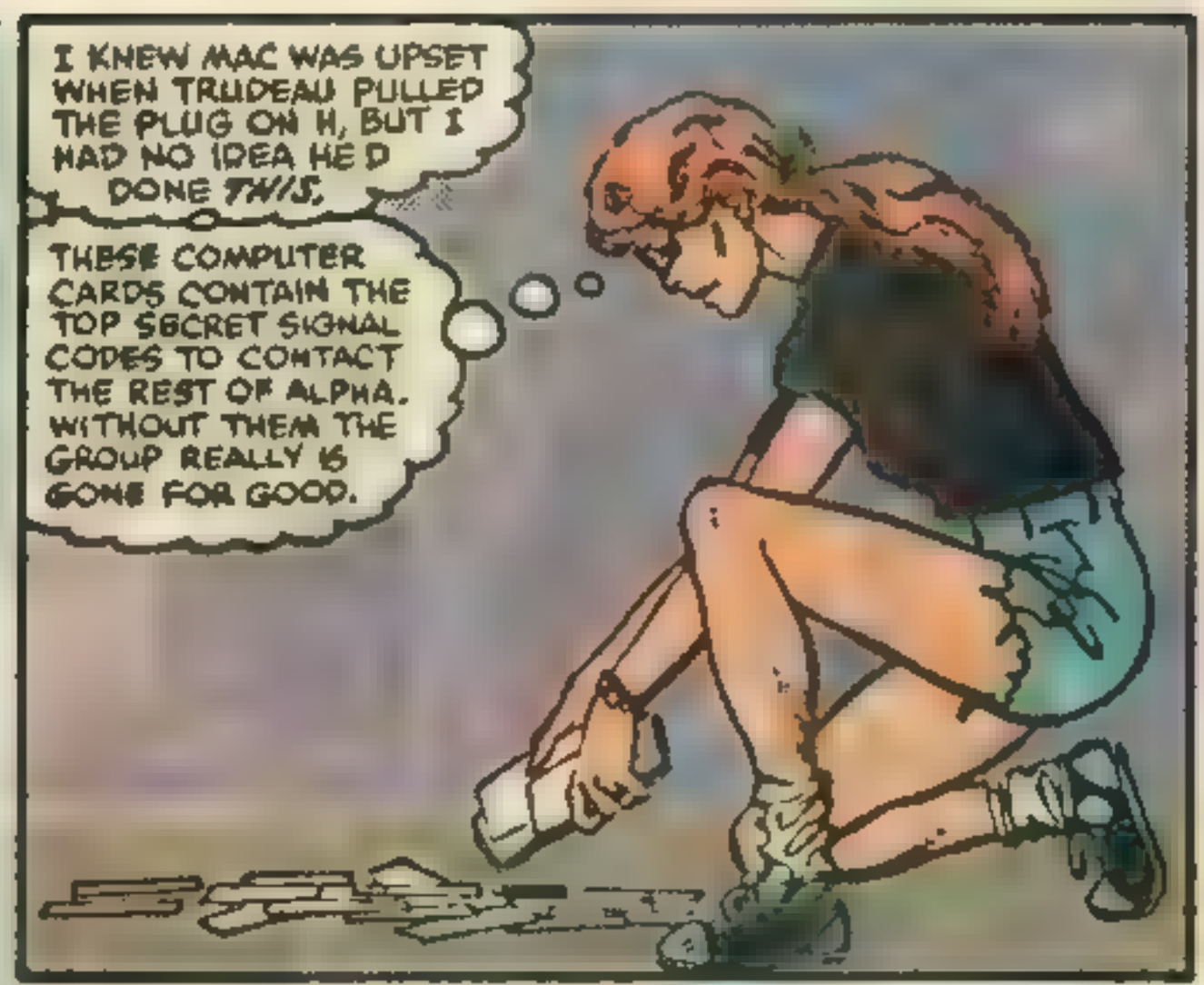
THE PECULIAR EFFECTS BEGAN SOME FORTY MINUTES AGO, AND SO FAR NO INSTRUMENTS TRAINED ON THE AREA HAVE BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY THE NATURE OF THE ENERGIES BEING DISCHARGED.

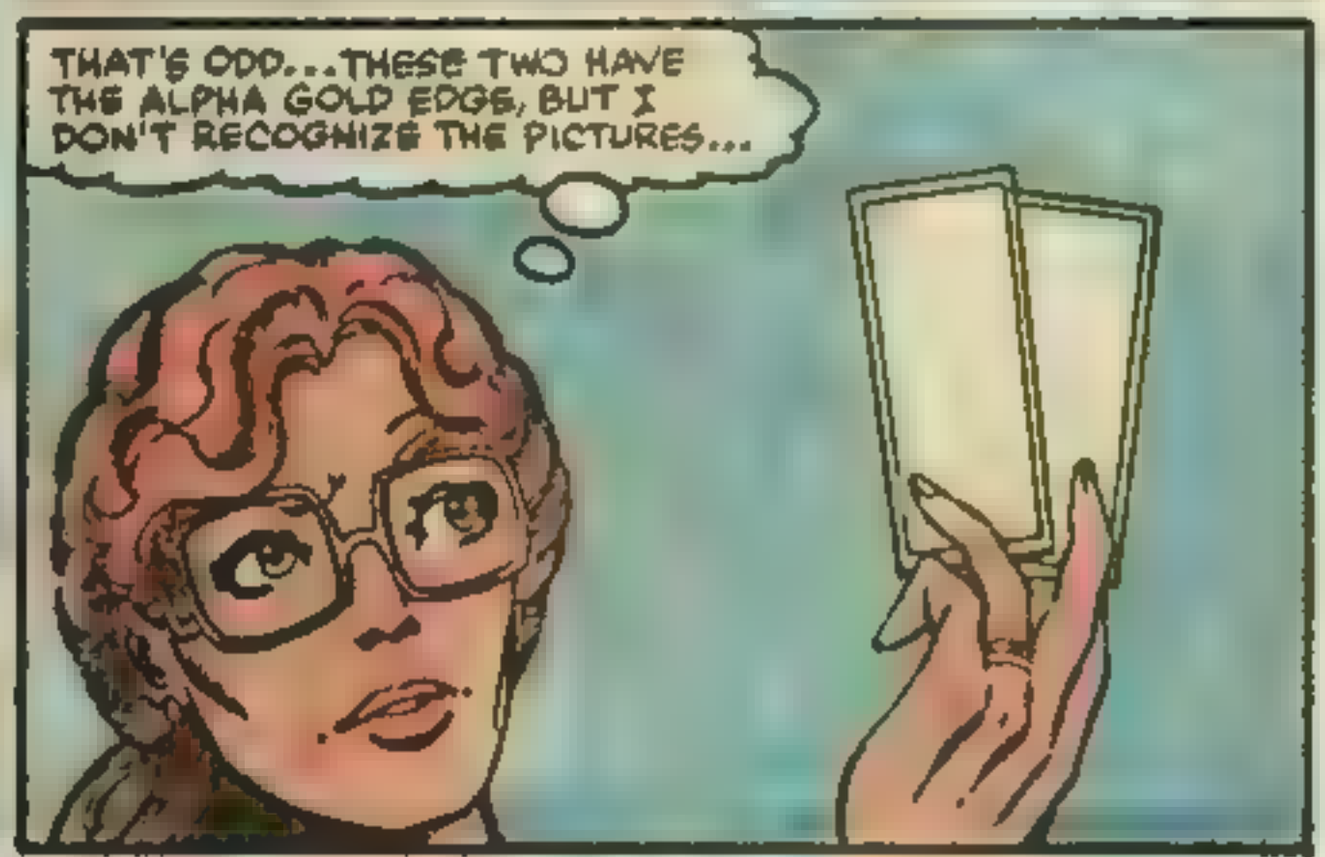
A FLY-OVER BY A HIGH-ALTITUDE SCANNING PLANE HAS PRODUCED NO USEFUL DATA...

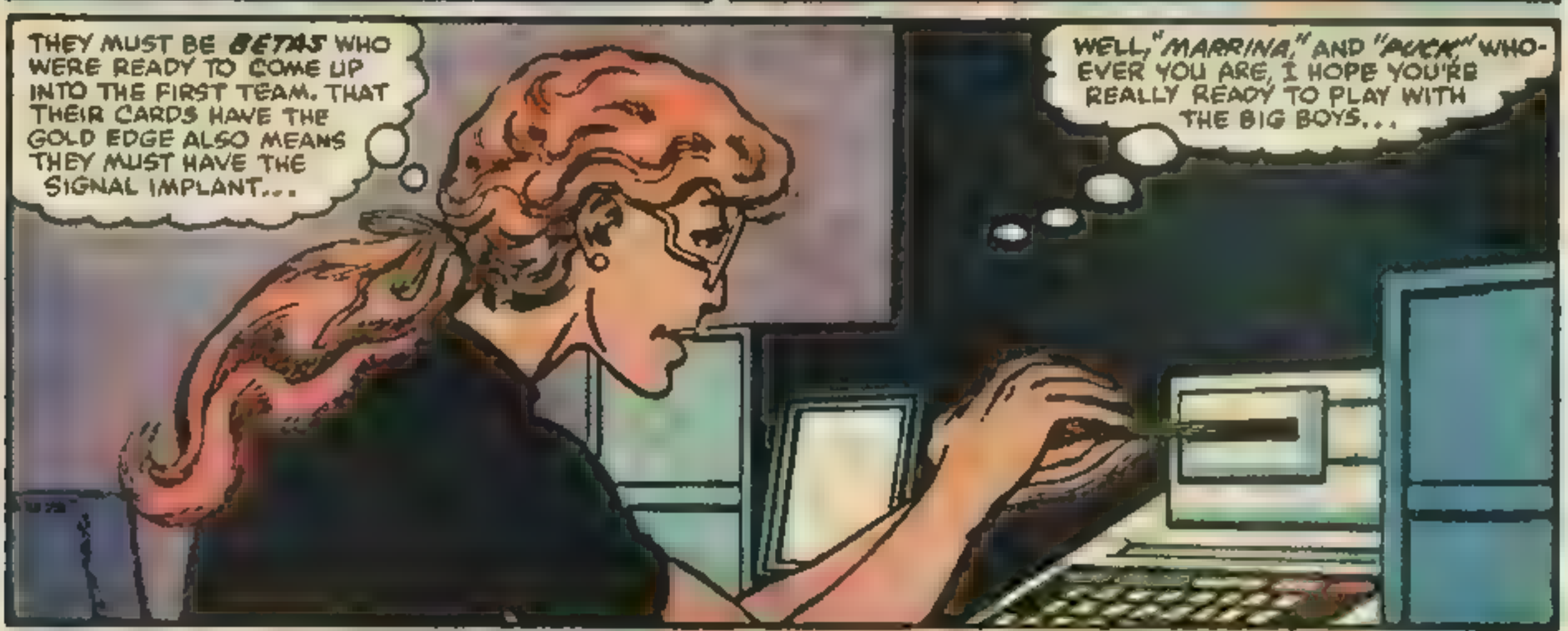
ALL RIGHT I CAN TAKE A HINT. CALL CODY BACK AND TELL HIM I'M ON MY WAY.

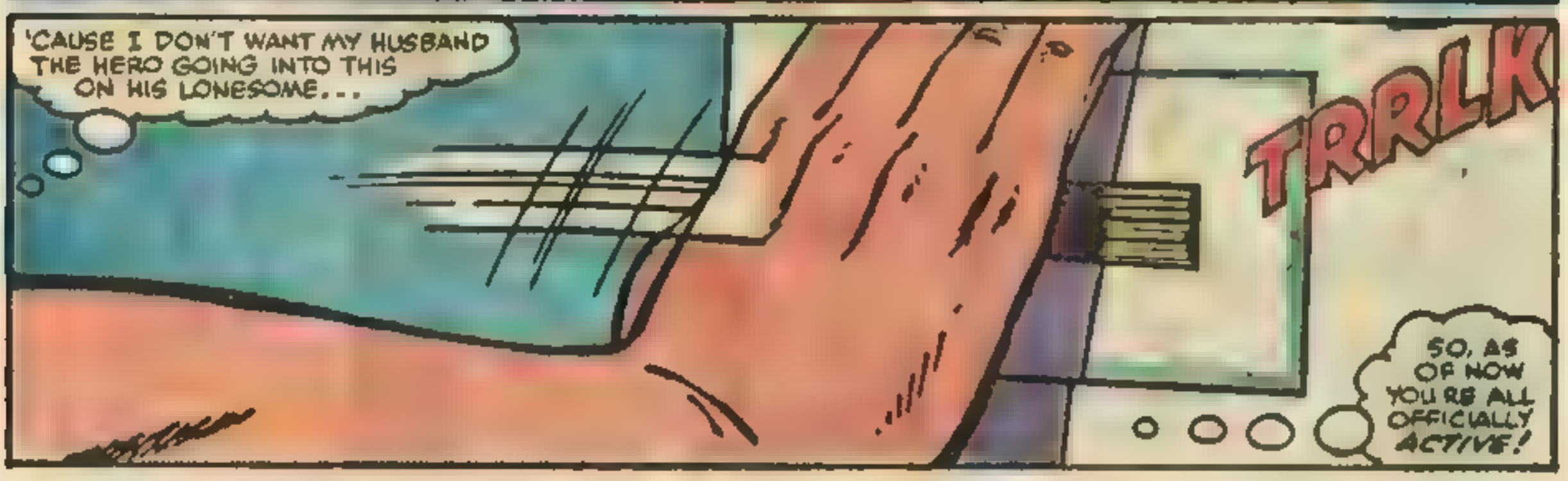
BUT, SURELY THIS IS MORE UP MICHAEL'S ALLEY... OR ANNE'S? IT'S PRACTICALLY IN HER BACK YARD.
SHOULDN'T YOU AT LEAST CONTACT THE REST OF ALPHA FLIGHT?
HEATHER...
THERE IS NO ALPHA FLIGHT.
MAC...

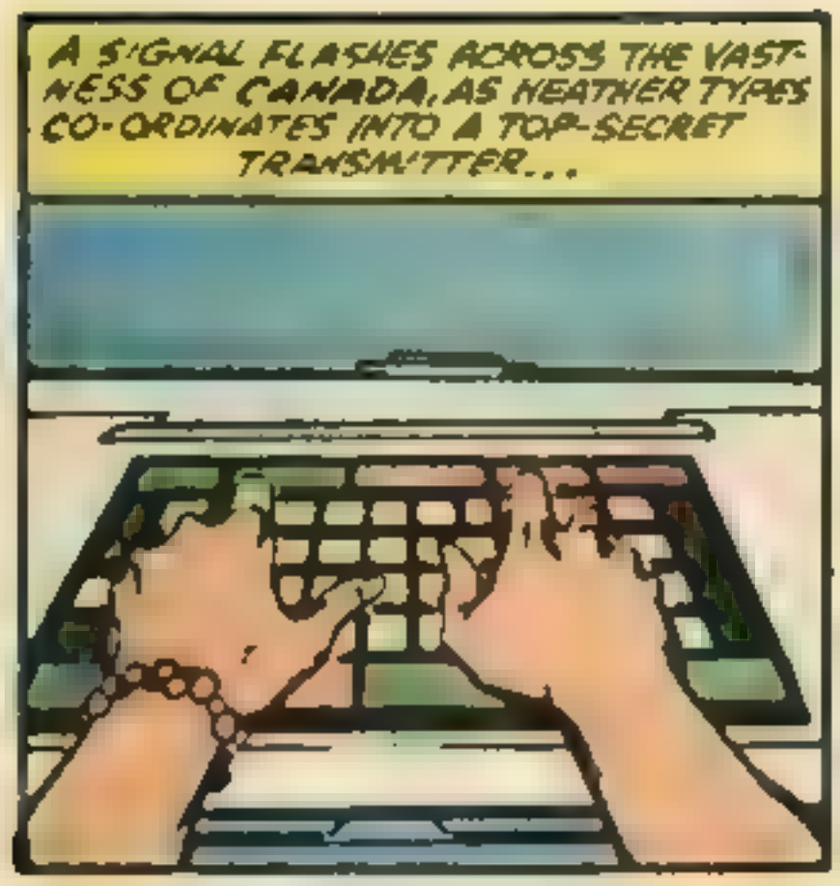

LOOK AT THIS MESS!


I KNEW MAC WAS UPSET WHEN TRUDEAU PULLED THE PLUG ON H, BUT I HAD NO IDEA HE'D DONE THIS.
THESE COMPUTER CARDS CONTAIN THE TOP SECRET SIGNAL CODES TO CONTACT THE REST OF ALPHA. WITHOUT THEM THE GROUP REALLY IS GONE FOR GOOD.

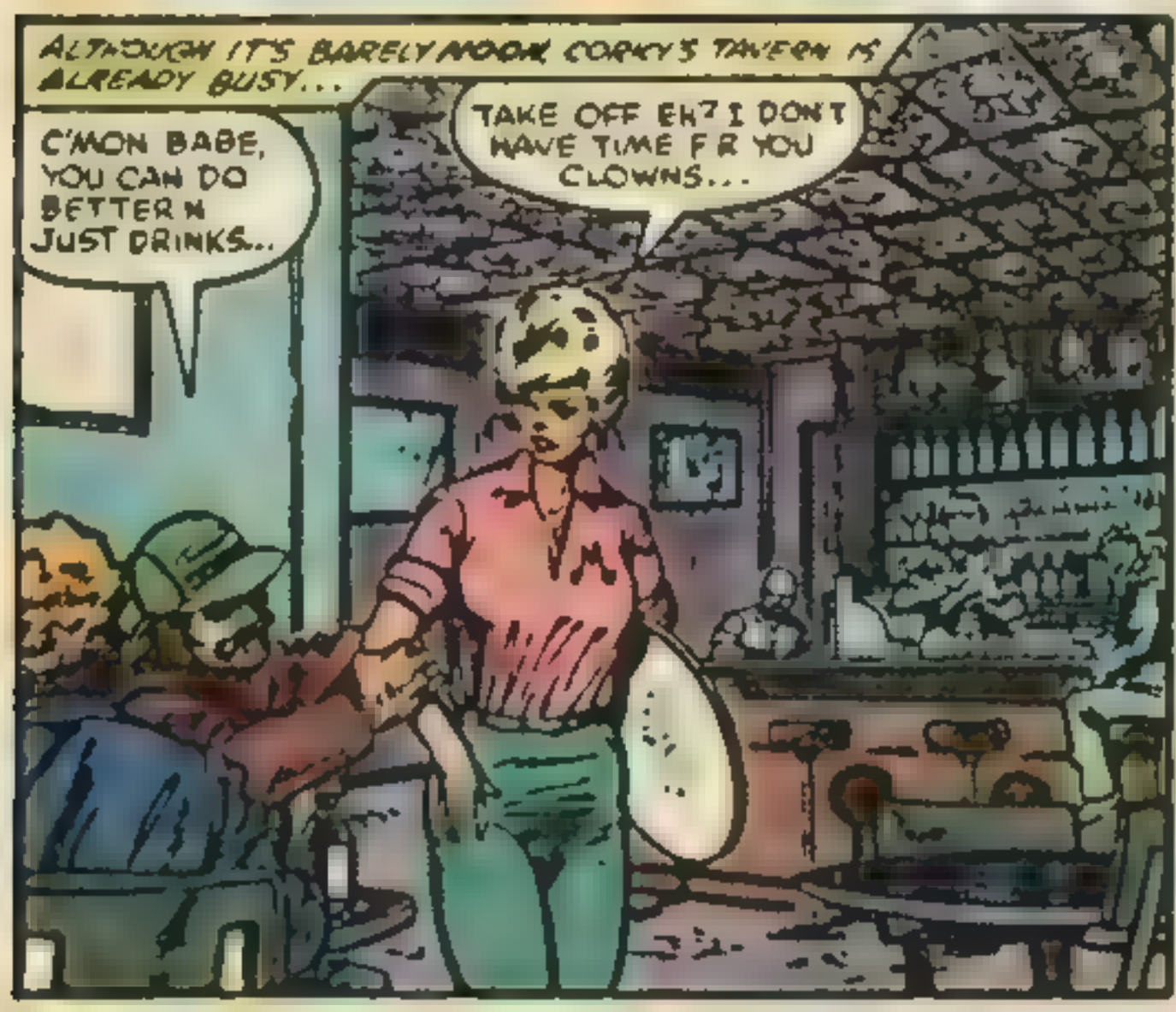

THAT'S ODD...THESE TWO HAVE THE ALPHA GOLD EDGE, BUT I DON'T RECOGNIZE THE PICTURES...

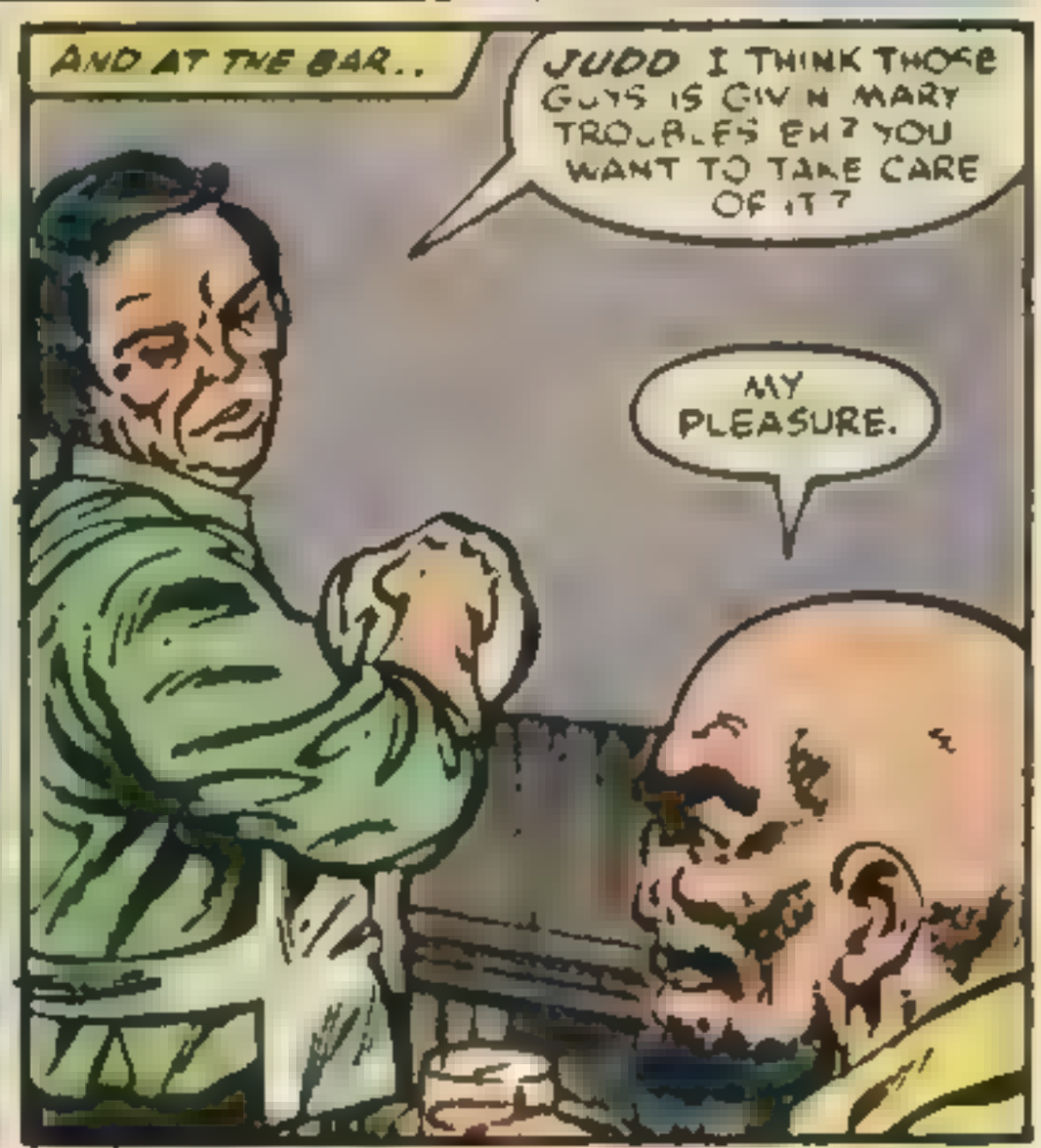

THEY MUST BE BETAS WHO WERE READY TO COME UP INTO THE FIRST TEAM. THAT THEIR CARDS HAVE THE GOLD EDGE ALSO MEANS THEY MUST HAVE THE SIGNAL IMPLANT...
WELL, "MARRINA," AND "PUCK" WHO-EVER YOU ARE, I HOPE YOU'RE REALLY READY TO PLAY WITH THE BIG BOYS...


'CAUSE I DON'T WANT MY HUSBAND THE HERO GOING INTO THIS ON HIS LONESOME...
TRRLK
SO, AS OF NOW YOU'RE ALL OFFICIALLY ACTIVE!


A SIGNAL FLASHES ACROSS THE VASTNESS OF CANADA, AS HEATHER TYPES CO-ORDINATES INTO A TOP-SECRET TRANSMITTER...

AND IN A LESS FASHIONABLE NEIGHBORHOOD OF TORONTO..

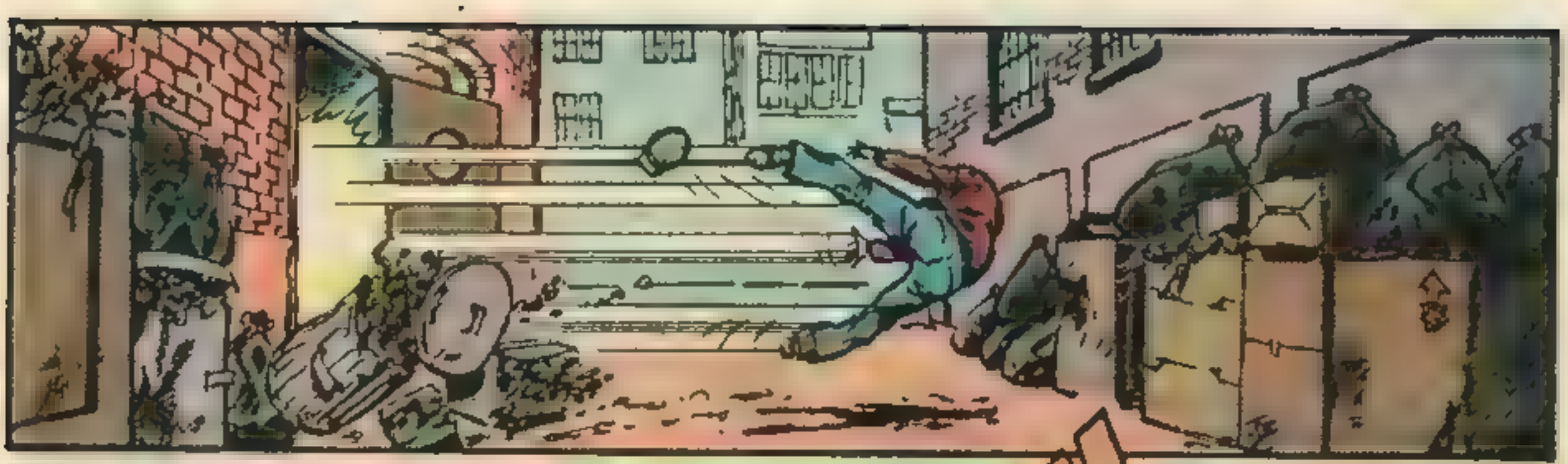

ALTHOUGH IT'S BARELY NOON CORKY'S TAVERN IS ALREADY BUSY...
C'MON BABE, YOU CAN DO BETTER N JUST DRINKS..
TAKE OFF EH? I DON'T HAVE TIME F R YOU CLOWNS...

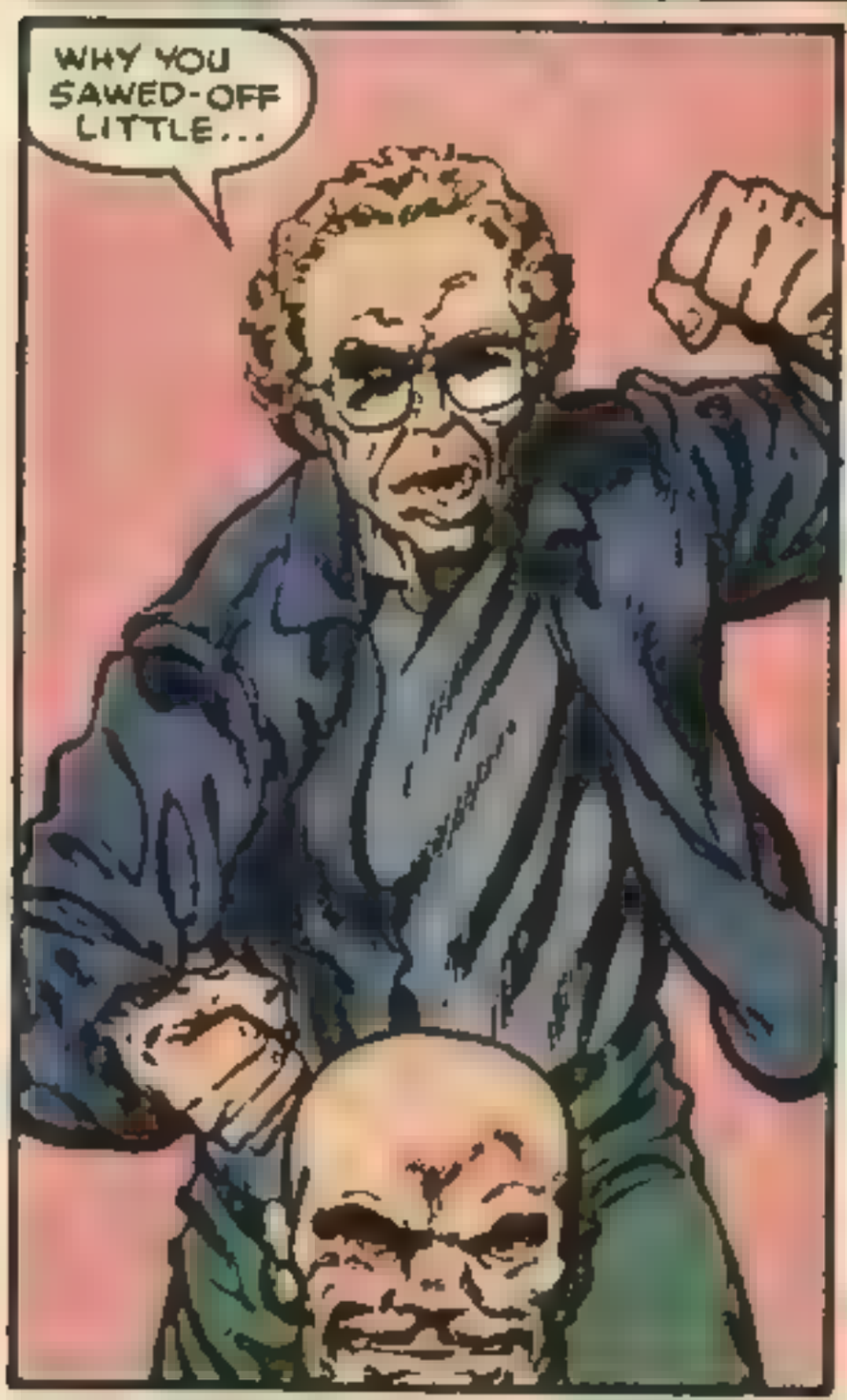

AND AT THE BAR..
JUDD I THINK THOSE GUYS IS GIV N MARY TROUBLES EH? YOU WANT TO TAKE CARE OF IT?
MY PLEASURE.

HIS SUDDEN MOVEMENTS ARE QUICK AND GRACEFUL MORE SO THAN ONE WOULD EXPECT FROM HIS STUNTED LIMBS.
HE IS EUGENE MILTON JUDD...
BUT SOON THE WORLD WILL KNOW HIM BY ANOTHER NAME.

YOU WANNA LAY OFF OR DO I HAVE TO TOSS YOU OUT, EH?
HUNH? I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
GO BACK T' KINDY-GARDEN, LI'L BOY, OR I MIGHT MUSS YOUR HAIR UP

YOU MIGHT TRY EH?



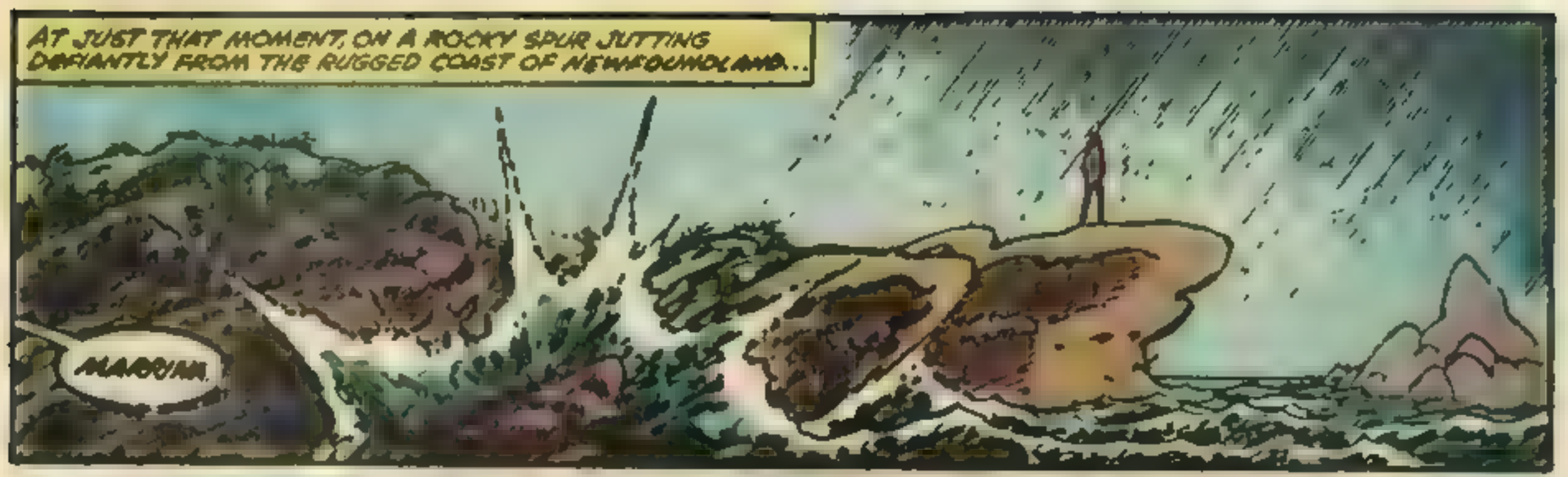

WHY YOU SAWED-OFF LITTLE...

POW

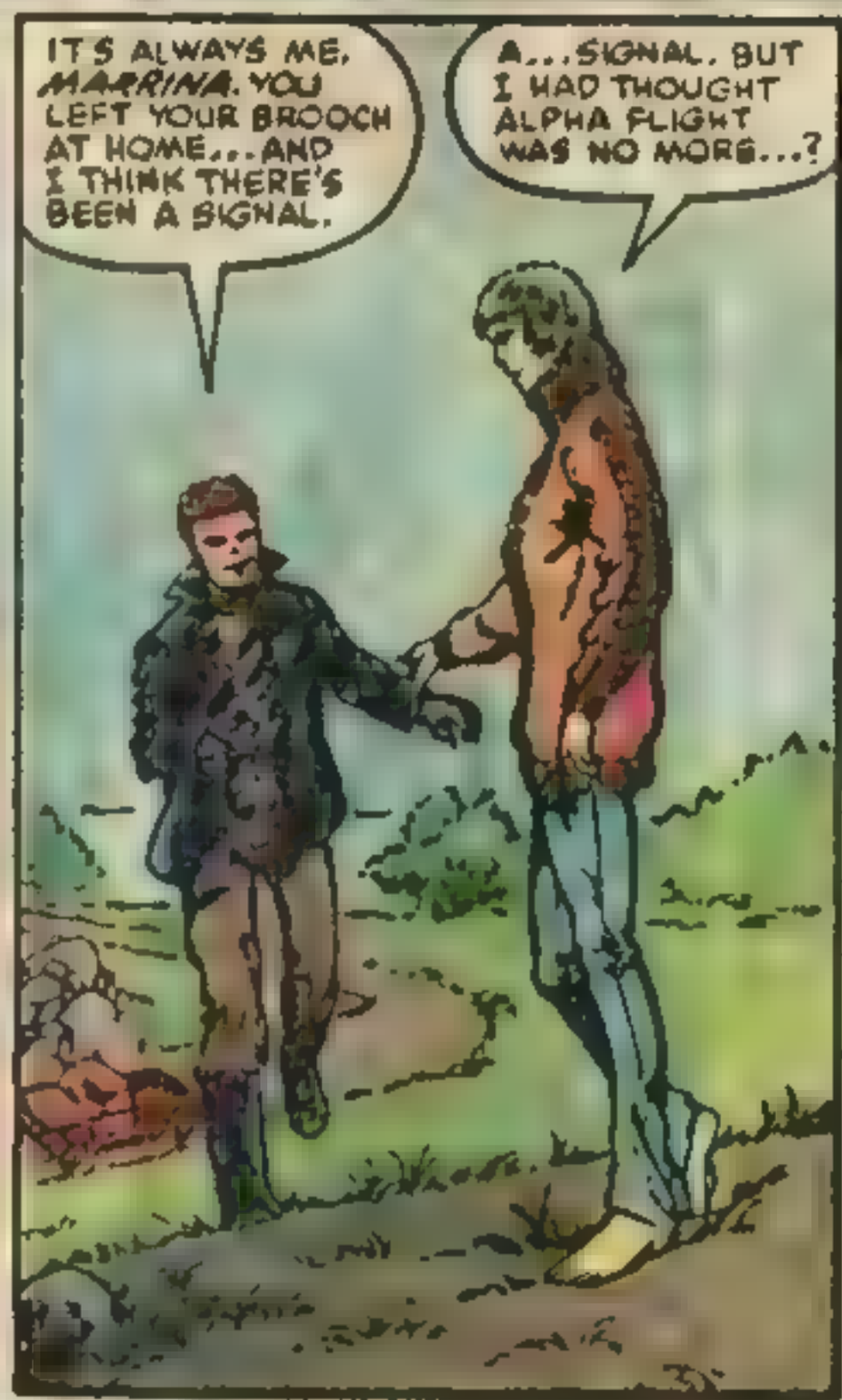
AT THAT MOMENT, FROM A MICROSCOPIC IMPLANT IN HIS SKULL, JUDD HEARS...
THE CALL! AT LAST!

JUDD, BABY, YOU'RE RUNNIN' OUT?
JUDD, WHAT THE HEY...?
THE CALL!

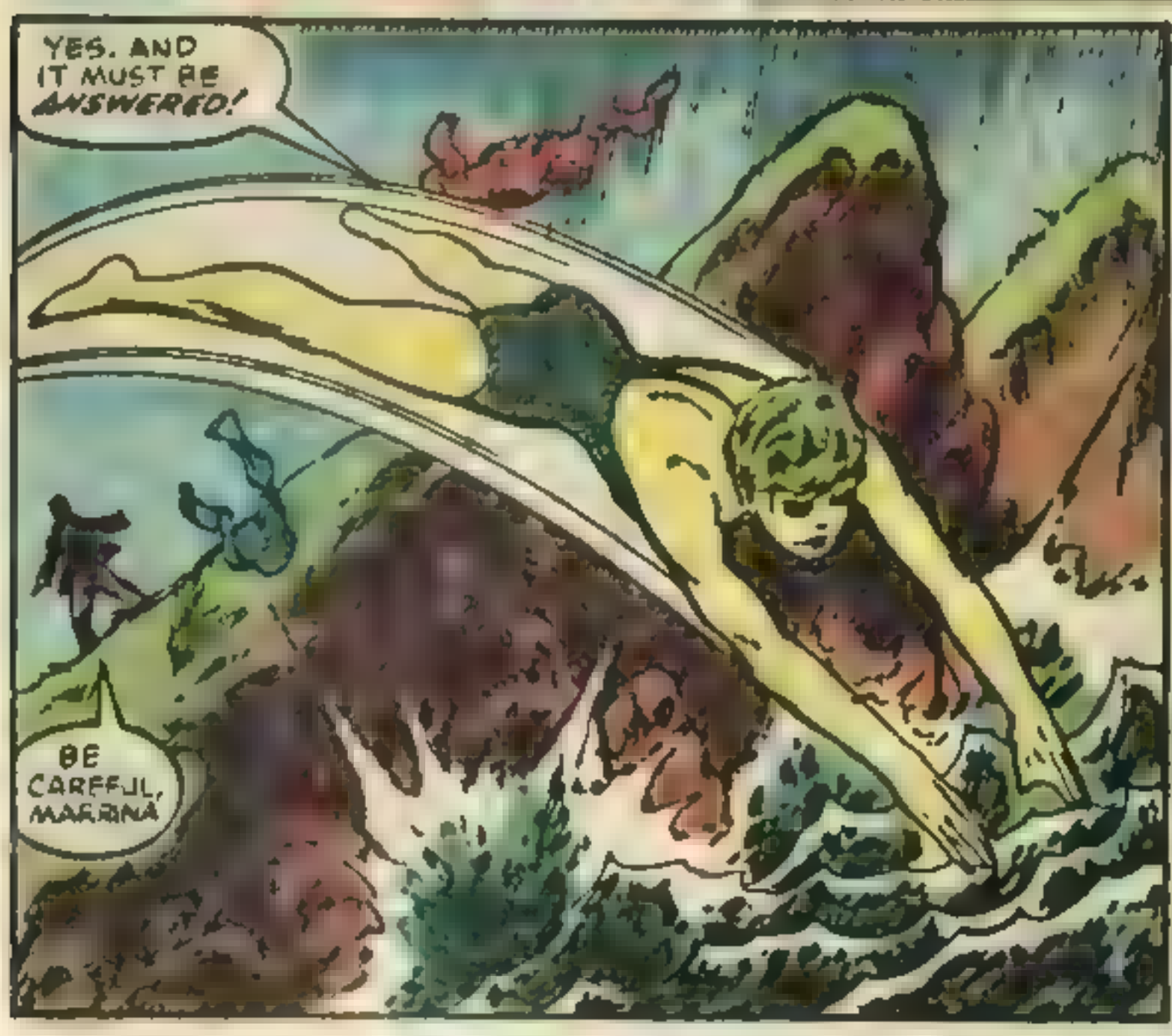

WHAT?
HAH?
MOMMY!
OH, MY!
THE CALL!


AT JUST THAT MOMENT, ON A ROCKY SPUR JUTTING DEFIANTLY FROM THE RUGGED COAST OF NEWFOUNDLAND...
MARRINA

WHO CALLS?
OH...
DAN SMALLWOOD. IT IS YOU.


IT'S ALWAYS ME, MARRINA. YOU LEFT YOUR BROOCH AT HOME...AND I THINK THERE'S BEEN A SIGNAL.
A...SIGNAL. BUT I HAD THOUGHT ALPHA FLIGHT WAS NO MORE...?

AND YET...YES, THE CALL STILL PULSES IN THE STONE
I TOLD YOU THEY'D NOT FORGET YOU, MARRINA. I TOLD YOU A CALL WOULD COME


YES. AND IT MUST BE ANSWERED!
BE CAREFUL, MARRINA

IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO YOU...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO...

ACROSS THE NATION NOW...

TO THE GREAT FORESTS OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA..

WHERE PROFESSOR WALTER LANGKOWSKI INDULGES IN A FAVORITE PASTIME...

THE ALPHA FLIGHT CALLS ANAL. BUT I THOUGHT...

REACTING INSTINCTIVELY THE FORMER GRID-IRON STAR RACES FORWARD...

EH?

GARMENTS ARE SHED ON THE RUN AS HIS MIND TURNS [illegible]...

PROBING FOR THE HIDDEN BIOLOGICAL SWITCH THAT WILL TRANSFORM HIM FROM SCIENTIST INTO...

SASQUATCH!

HM, NO PAIN AT ALL THAT TIME. CLEARLY MY BODY CHEMISTRY IS ADJUSTING QUITE NICELY.

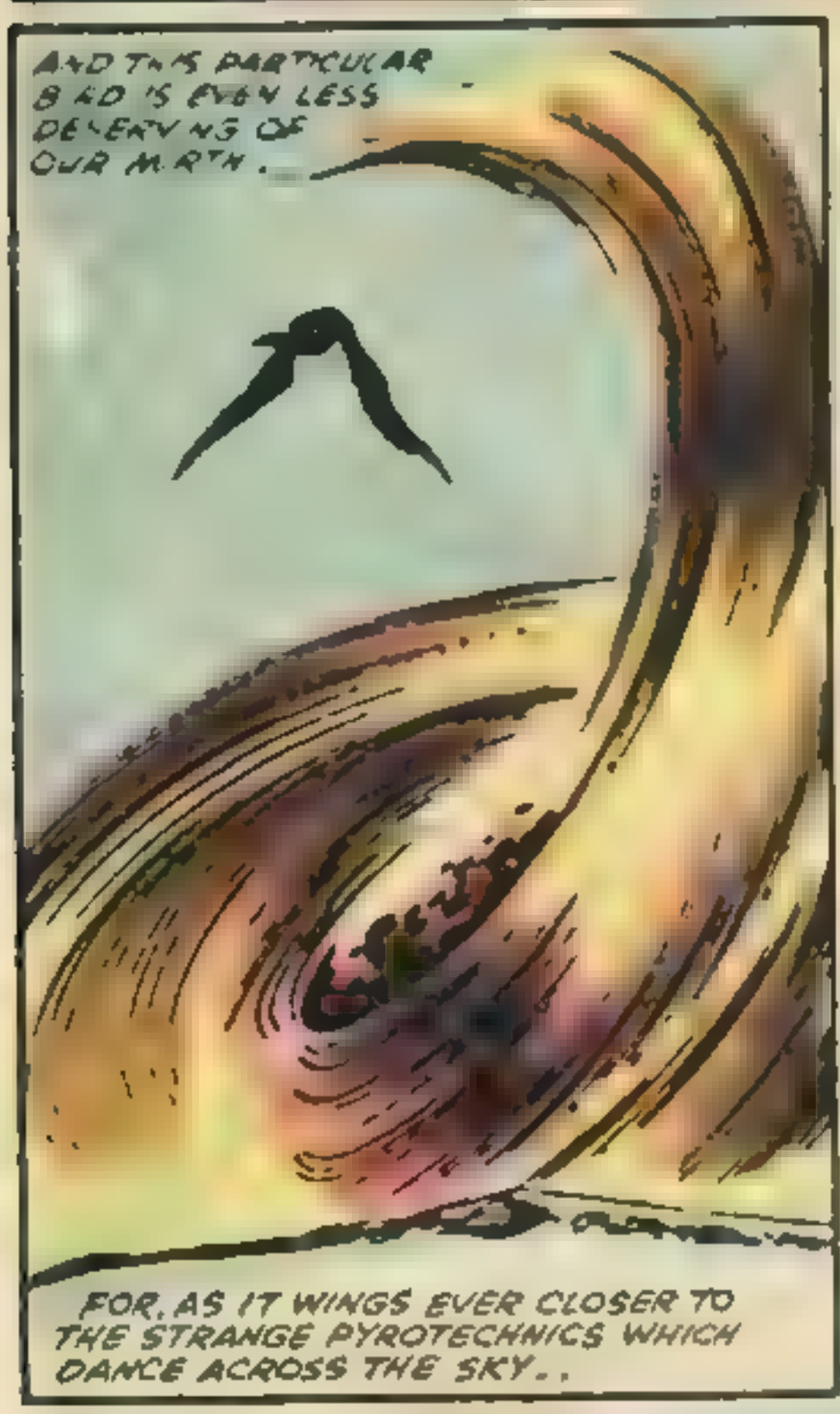
THIS GREAT ORANGE ANTHROPOID IS BECOMING AS COMFORTABLE AS MY NATURAL PROPORTIONS.

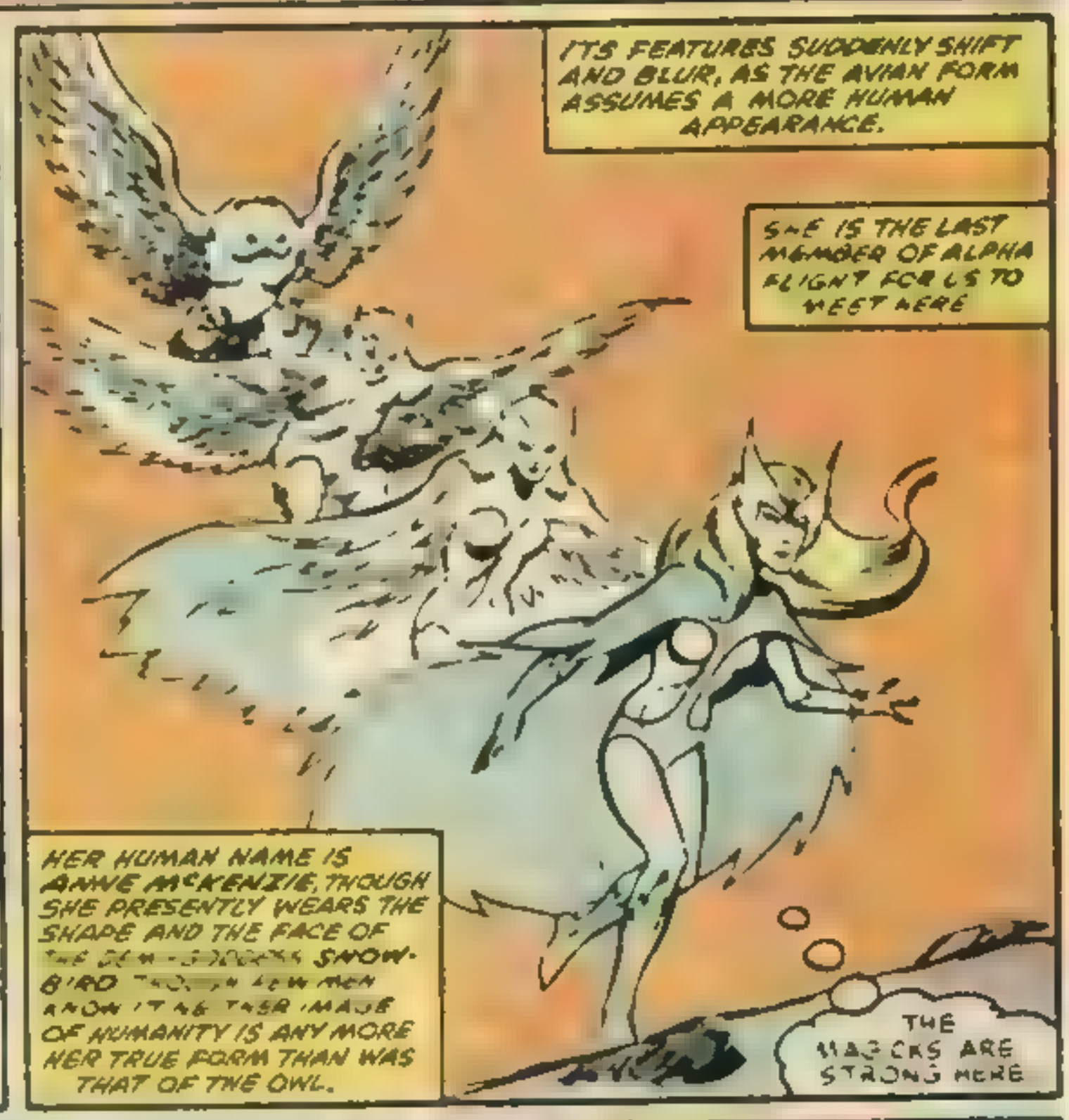
NORTH AGAIN

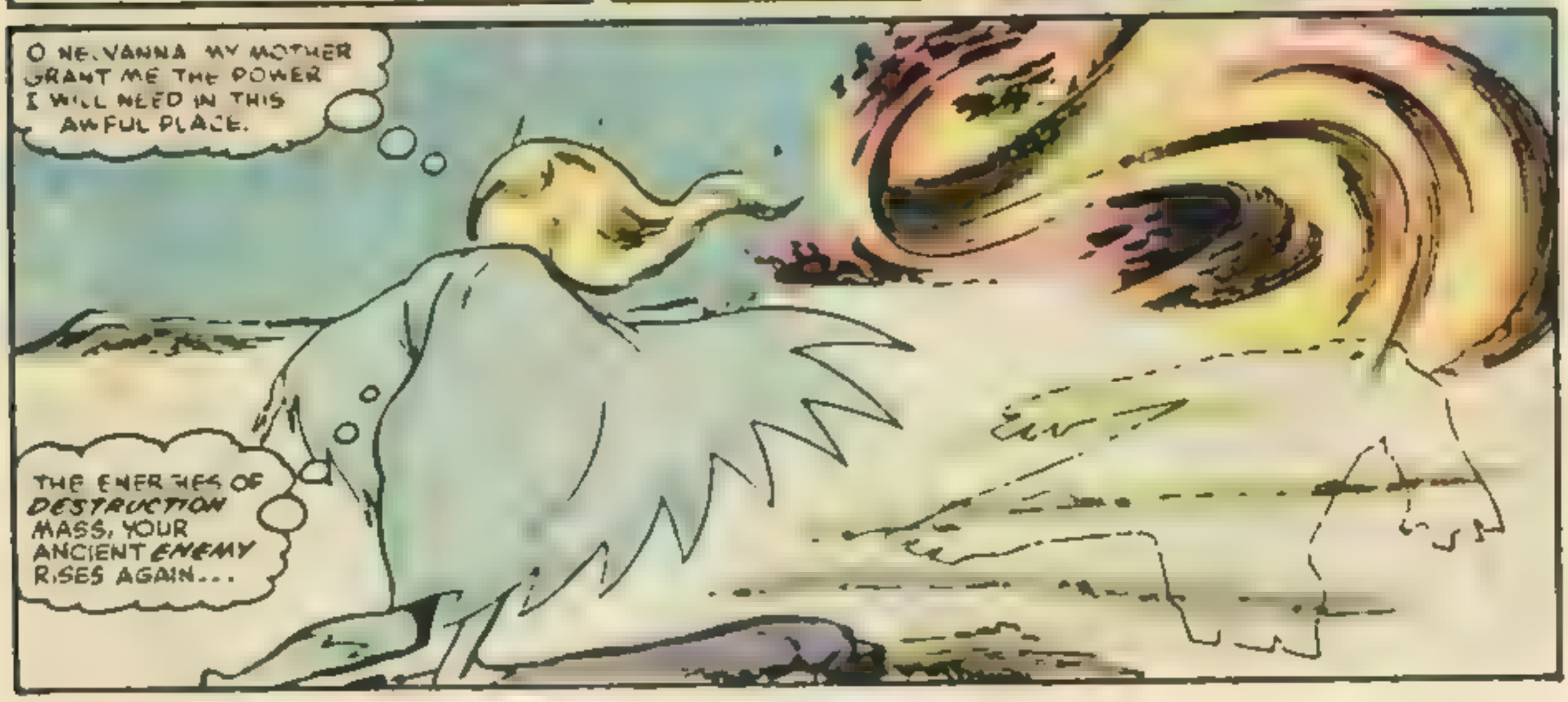
THE ESQUIMAUX OF THIS GREAT WHITE LAND CALL THE ARCTIC OWL **OOKPIK.**

TO EARS MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE THIS HAS A CURIOUS, HUMOROUS SOUND

BUT THE ARCTIC OWL IS A KEEN, SAVAGE HUNTER, NOT HUMOROUS AT ALL.



IT WAS THE EARTH-BEAST MEN CALLED *TUNDRA* WHO IMPRISONED YOU BEYOND HUMAN KEN, O MY MOTHER.

IF YOUR GREAT POWER WAS NOT ENOUGH WHAT THEN IS MINE DILUTED AS IT IS BY HUMAN BLOOD?

"IF THERE WAS BUT SOME WAY TO HALT THIS DREAD RESURRECTION.

BUT ALREADY IT IS TOO LATE. THE HUMAN AGENT IS NEARLY CONSUMED

"HIS DWINDLING LIFE FORCE WILL GIVE THE IGNITING SPARK TO THE SOUL OF THE *BEAST*..."

*IT BEGINS. THE DESICCATED THING WHICH WAS ONCE A MAN TWITCHES ALOFT A TREMBLING HAND...*

*AND AROUND HIM THE CRUDE SHAPE SCUFFED INTO THE TUNDRA MIMICS THE MOTION.*

THE BEAST RISES...
I...LIVE. MY LIMBS GROW STRONG, THE LAND BEARS ITS HIDDEN POWER UNTO MY BODY. I...AM... TUNDRA!
AND I AM THE DEATH OF ALL THAT LIVES, THE FINAL DOOM OF ALL MY ANCIENT ENEMIES. FEAR ME, LAND OF THE NORTH. YOUR LAST DAYS NOW WALK AGAIN!
HELP ME, MOTHER...I AM AFRAID!

FIVE MILES DUE NORTH...

WEATHER SHIP TANGO DELTA NINE MOVES CAUTIOUSLY THROUGH THE SPRING ICE BREAK-UP...

BLOWED IF I KNOW WHAT IT IS, SKIPPER. IT SHOWED ABOUT A MINUTE AND A HALF AGO.

THIS SPECIAL DEEP-SONAR IS DESIGNED FOR BOTTOM SCANNING AND ICE-FLOE DETECTION, SO I CAN'T BE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN, BUT I'D ALMOST SWEAR IT'S MOVING AT CLOSE TO EIGHT HUNDRED KNOTS.

IMPOSSIBLE. NOBODY'S GOT A VESSEL CAPABLE OF THAT KIND OF SUBMERGED SPEED.

THAT'S THE OTHER ODD THING, SIR...

"IT'S NOT A SHIP. IT'S SOFT... ORGANIC!"

SHE MOVES THROUGH THE ICE-COLD DEPTHS AS EASILY AS A MAN MIGHT MOVE THROUGH AIR.

UNBELIEVABLE AS HER SPEED MAY BE, SHE SUDDENLY EXECUTES AN ALMOST 90° TURN, HURTLING UPWARDS...

UNTIL THE CREW OF TD9 ARE CONFRONTED WITH A PHENOMENON OUTSIDE PREVIOUS HUMAN EXPERIENCE...

WATER-SPOUT...?

THAT 'BLIP'. IT'S RIGHT ON TOP OF IT... RIDING THE SPOUT!

AND AS THAT SWIRLING COLUMN OF WATER ARCS INLAND CONVERGING ON THE SAME CO-ORDINATES, WE FIND...

COME, BROTHER, WHY MUST WE DAWDLE ALONG AT THIS SNAIL'S PACE?

CONSERVE YOUR STRENGTH, SISTER. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT MENACE HAS CAUSED *VANOVICATOR* TO SUMMON US.

YOU ARE TOO CAUTIOUS, *NORTHSTAR*. I HAVE NO WINGS, BUT I MUST *FLY!*

JEANNE-MARIE!

FOR SHAME, BROTHER! DO I CALL *YOUR* TRUE NAME ALOUD? I AM *AURORA*, NOT JEANNE-MARIE!

YOU ARE A CHINESE PUZZLE, SISTER. YOU ARE BOXES WITHIN BOXES, AND EACH IS MORE PERPLEXING THAN THE LAST

AND *YOU* ARE NEVER CONTENT IT SEEMS. AM I TO BE FREE AND ENJOY MY POWER TO ITS FULLEST, OR MUST I BE POOR, PLAIN JEANNE-MARIE?

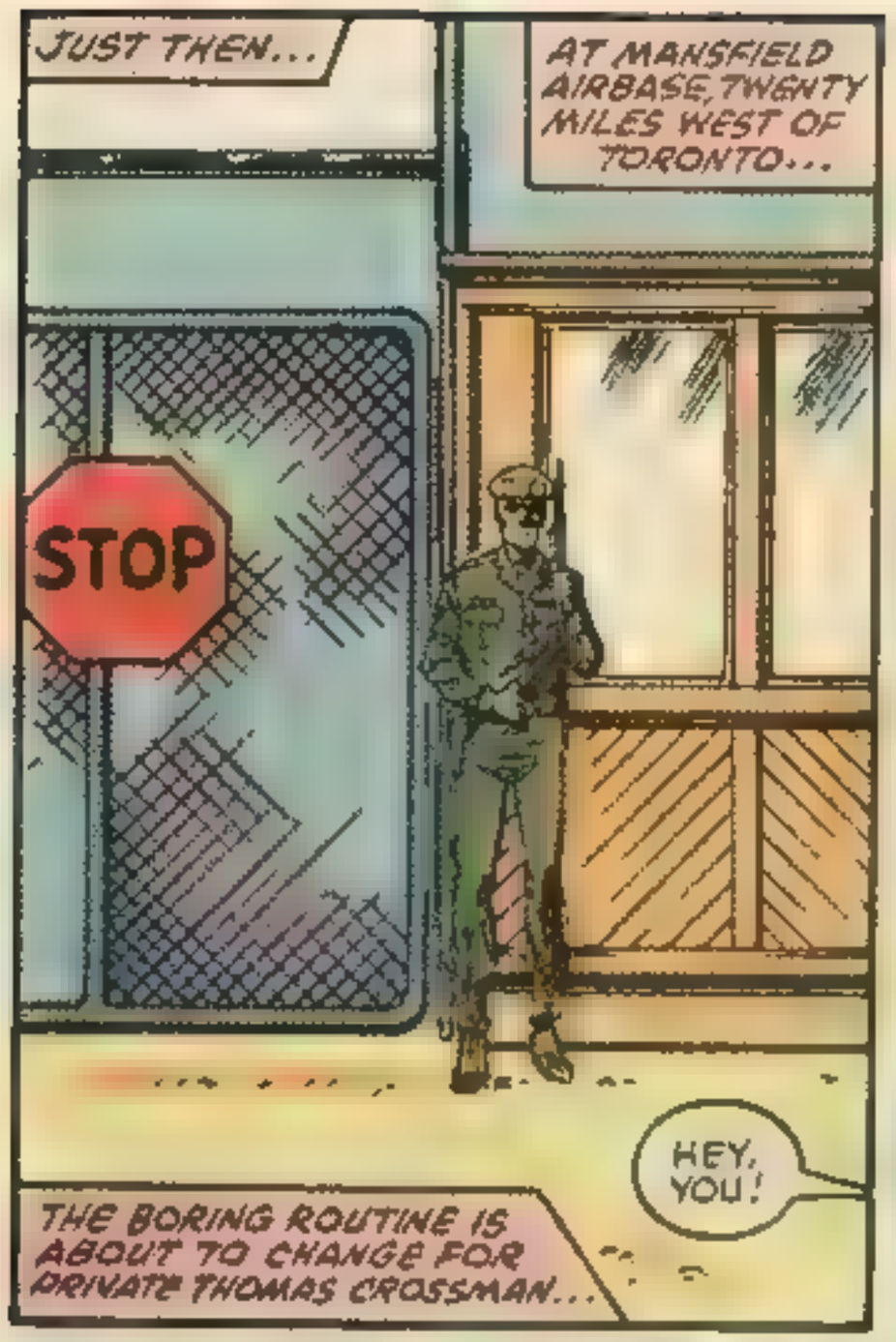
IS THERE NO HAPPY MEDIUM, AURORA? NORTHSTAR AND JEAN-PAUL ARE ONE AND THE SAME...

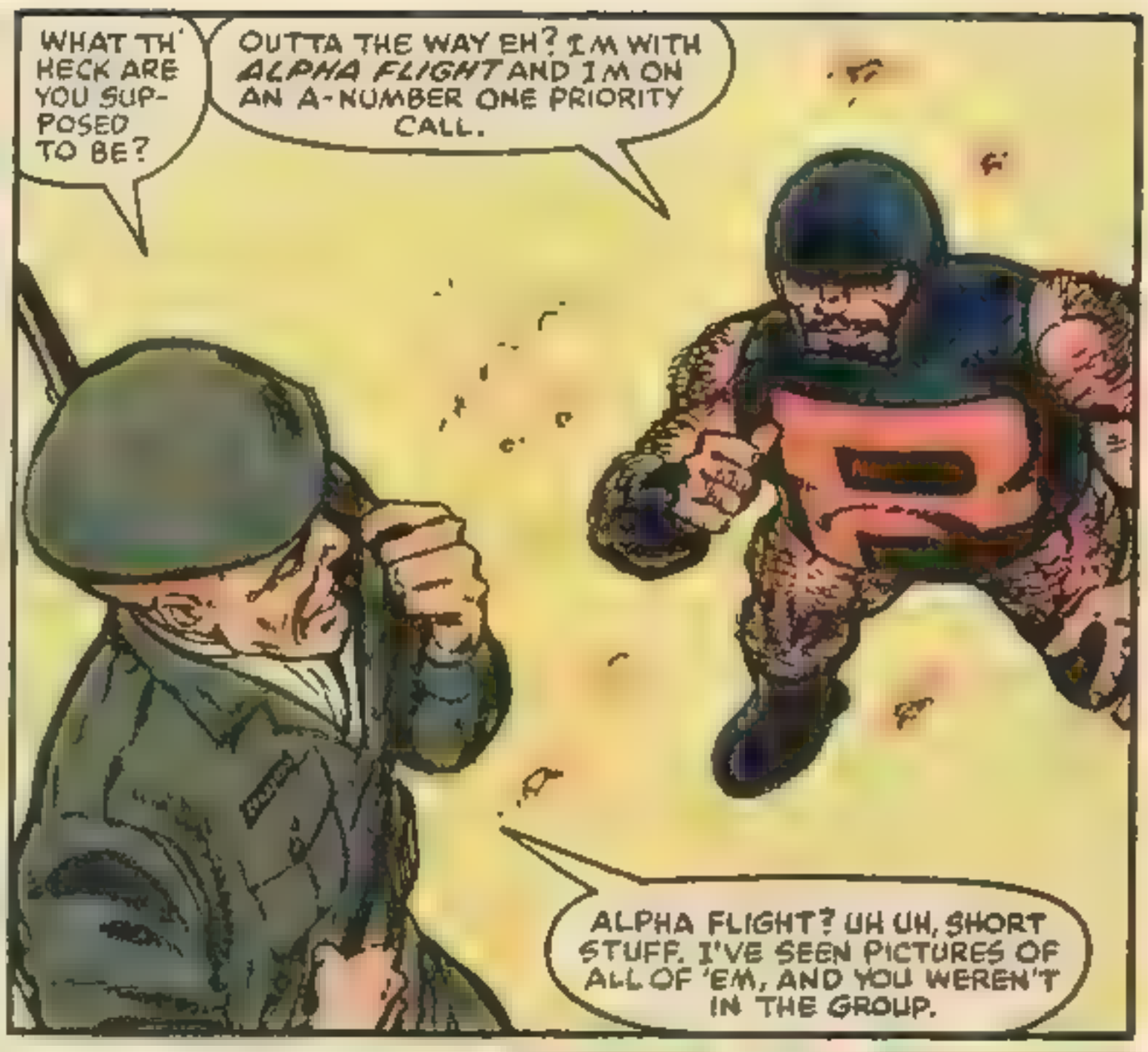
WHY MUST AURORA AND JEANNE-MARIE TREAT EACH OTHER AS STRANGERS?

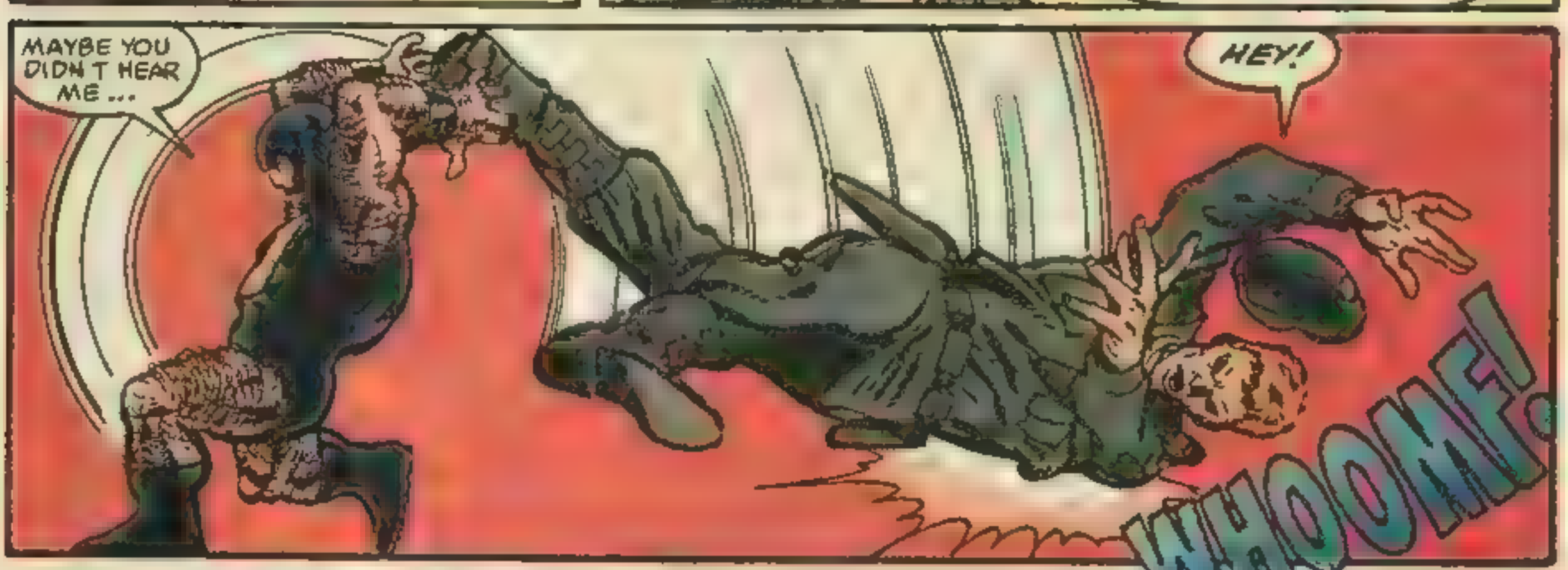
PERHAPS BECAUSE IT PLEASES US TO DO SO. CATCH ME IF YOU CAN, BROTHER!

I COULD DO SO EASILY, SISTER. YOU CAN FLY LONGER, BUT NOT FASTER.

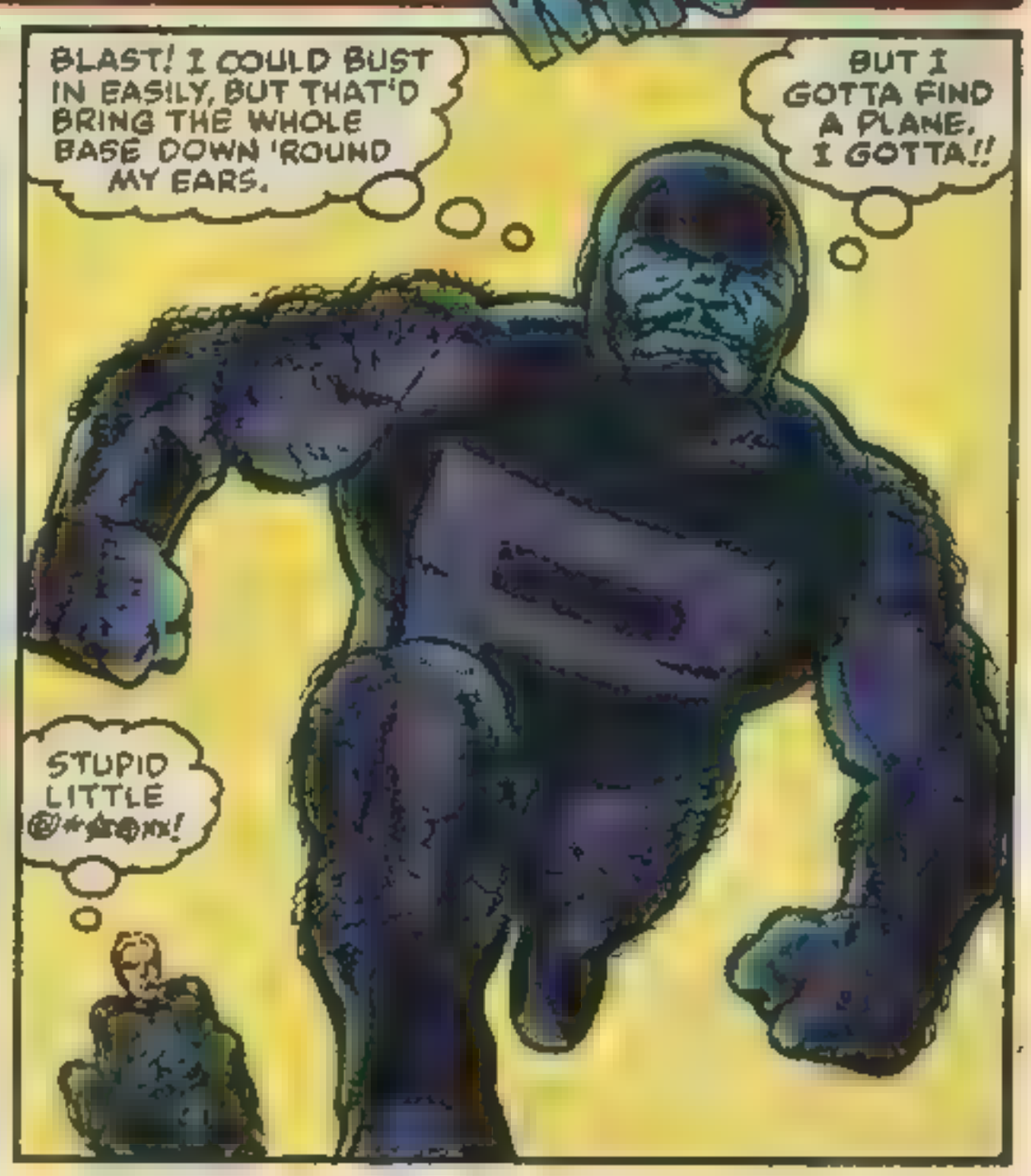
BUT WHAT AM I TO DO ABOUT YOU? I FEAR YOU MAY BE... *QUITE MAD!*


JUST THEN...
AT MANSFIELD AIRBASE, TWENTY MILES WEST OF TORONTO...
STOP
HEY, YOU!
THE BORING ROUTINE IS ABOUT TO CHANGE FOR PRIVATE THOMAS CROSSMAN...


WHAT TH' HECK ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?
OUTTA THE WAY EH? I'M WITH ALPHA FLIGHT AND I'M ON AN A-NUMBER ONE PRIORITY CALL.
ALPHA FLIGHT? UH UH, SHORT STUFF. I'VE SEEN PICTURES OF ALL OF 'EM, AND YOU WEREN'T IN THE GROUP.


MAYBE YOU DIDN'T HEAR ME...
HEY!
WHOOMF!

NOW LISTEN UP, SOLDIER BOY, I'M CALLED PUCK...
PUCK? PUCK? WHAT KINDA NAME IS THAT FOR A SUPER-GUY?
YOU WANT IN, TOUGHIE, YOU GO GET WRITTEN CLEARANCE.
OTHERWISE, BACK OFF, EH?


BLAST! I COULD BUST IN EASILY, BUT THAT'D BRING THE WHOLE BASE DOWN 'ROUND MY EARS.
BUT I GOTTA FIND A PLANE, I GOTTA!!
STUPID LITTLE @*$@%!

MEANWHILE...

FORGIVE ME MY FEARS, MOTHER. I AM YOUR TRUE AND ONLY DAUGHTER, AND I MUST MASTER THEM.

THE BEAST MUST BE STOPPED WITHIN TWENTY MINUTES-- BEFORE HIS POWER IS FULLY AWAKENED-- OR HE WILL NEVER BE STOPPED AT ALL!

HEAR ME, *TUNDRA!* HEAR NOW THE VOICE OF YOUR SWORN ENEMY!

*THE LANGUAGE COMES MORE EASILY TO HER LIPS THAN ENGLISH, YET IT IS A TONGUE SHE HAS NEVER USED BEFORE...*

*A TONGUE UNHEARD ON EARTH IN A THOUSAND YEARS...*

HEAR ME, CORRUPTER, DESPOILER OF THE EARTH-SPIRIT. THIS LAND IS MINE TO DEFEND, YOU SHALL NOT HAVE IT!

WHO DARES SPEAK THUS TO ME?

INSIGNIFICANT GNAT! HOW DARE YOU... WAIT! I SEE BEYOND YOUR MORTAL DISGUISE. THE BLOOD OF MY ANCIENT *ENEMY* PULSES IN YOUR VEINS...

LET IT THEN BE DRAINED AWAY...

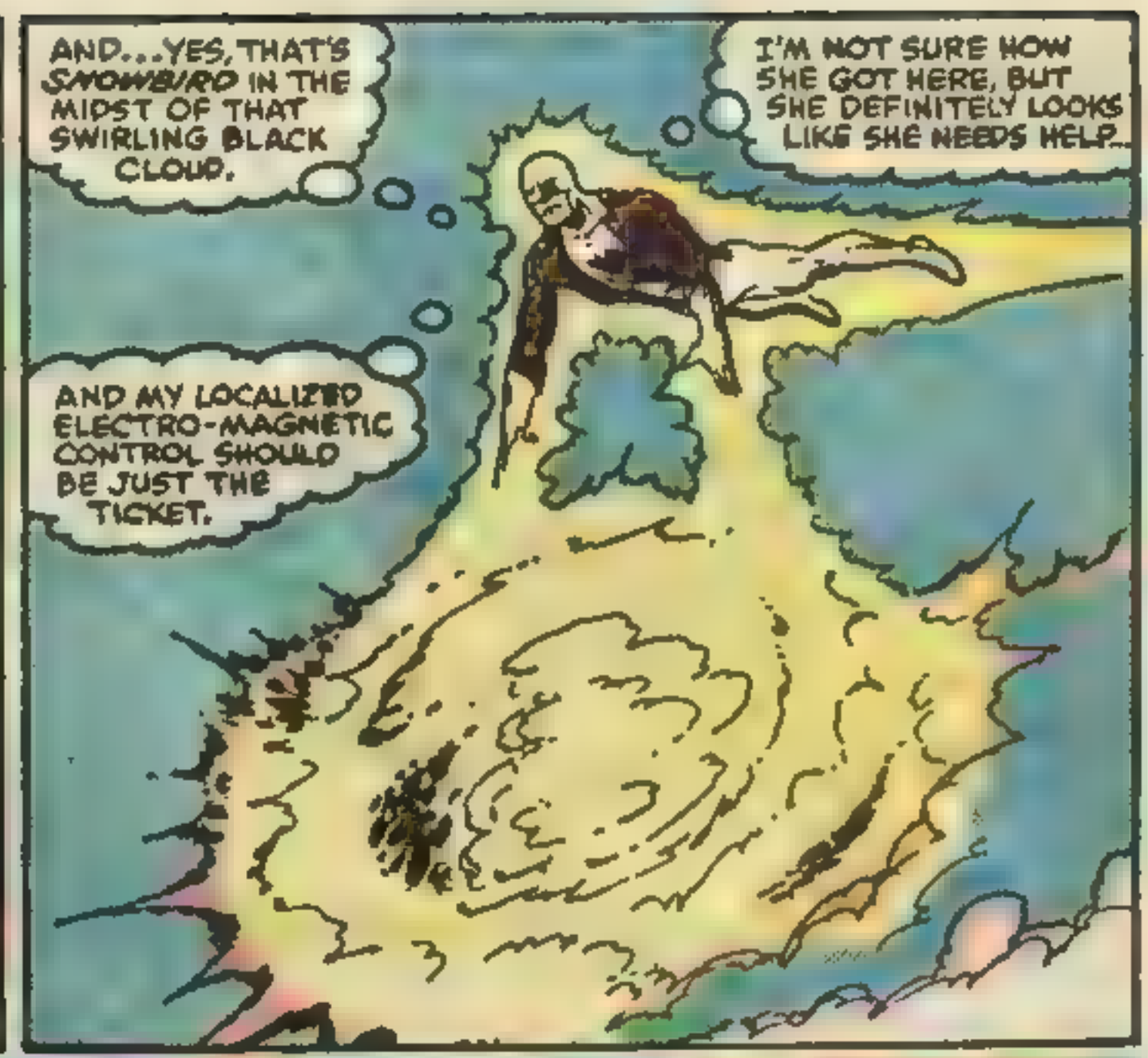
*WITH STARTLING SPEED THE MASSIVE ARM SWINGS UP, AND...*

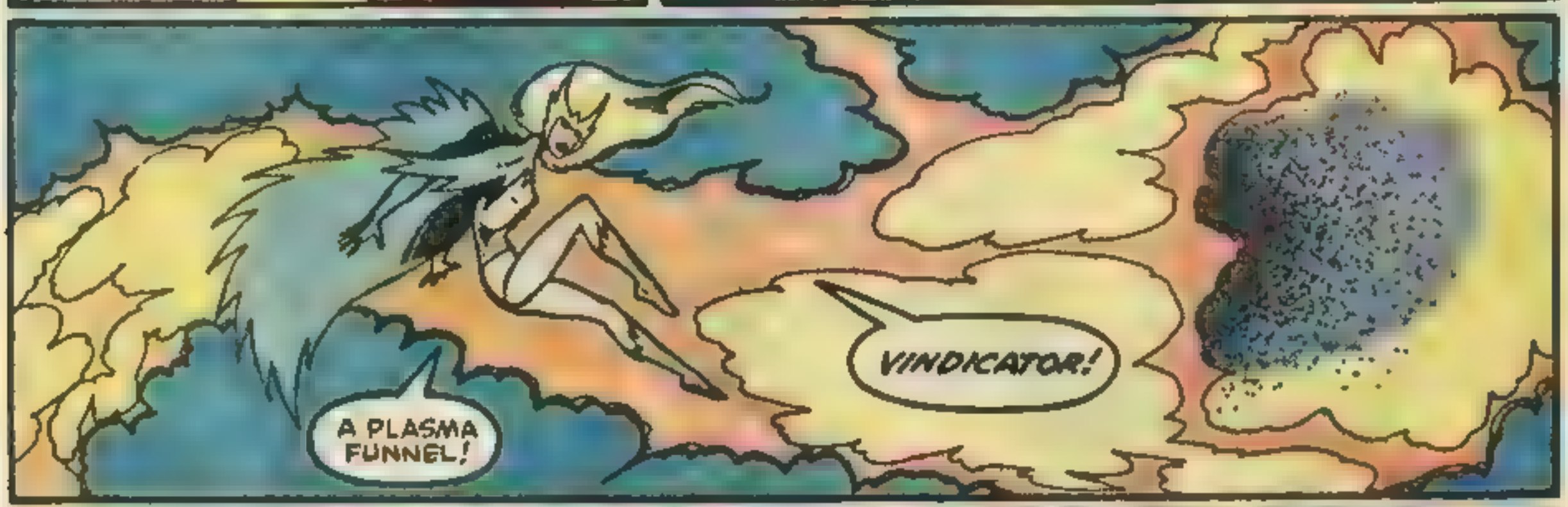
MOSQUITOES!

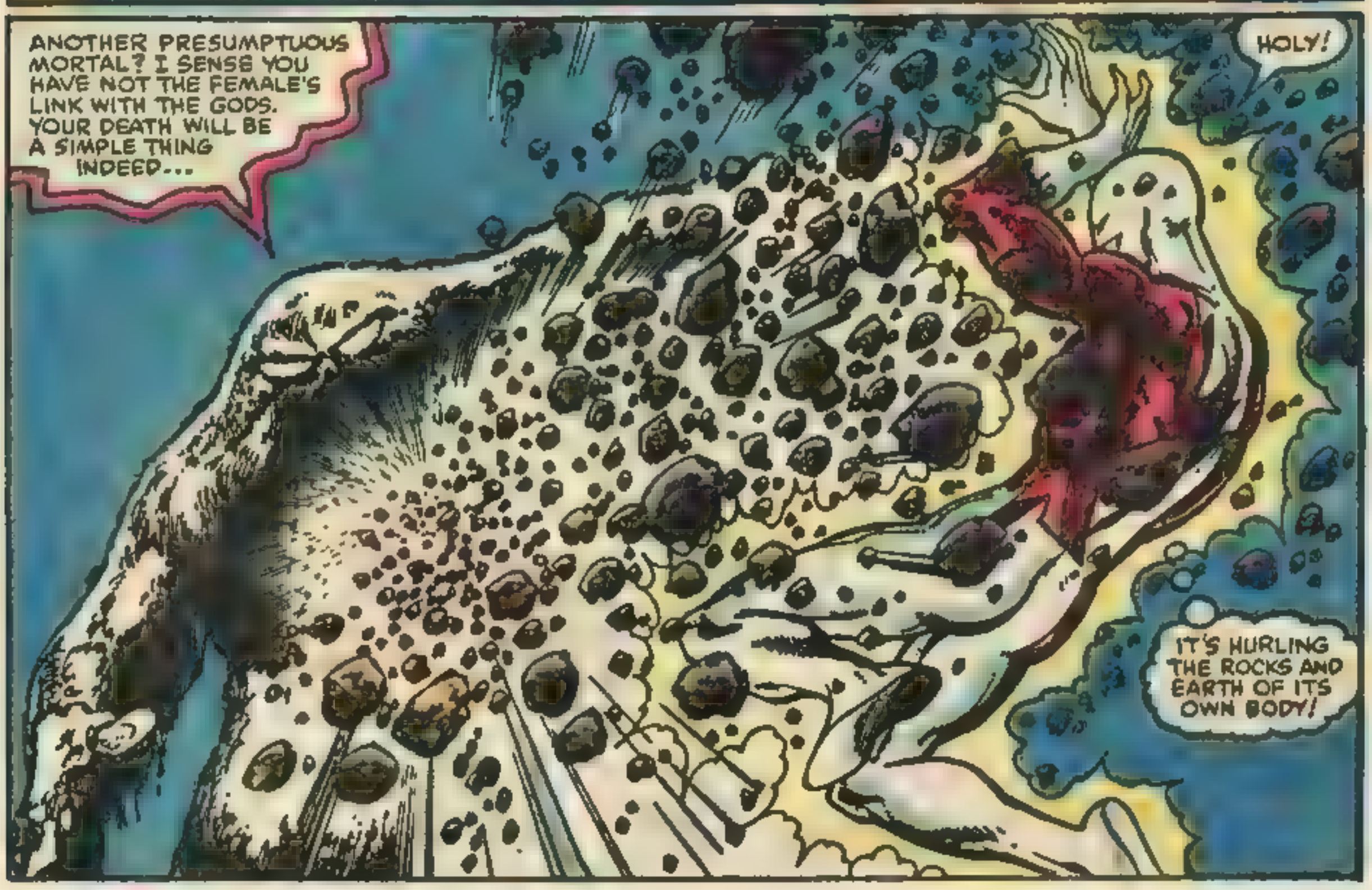
IT IS TRUE, THEN! *TUNDRA* HAS POWER OVER THE CREATURES OF THE NORTH...

I DARE NOT USE MY TRANSMORPHIC POWERS!

AT THAT MOMENT...
GREAT SCOTT! WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT MONSTROSITY!
IT LOOKS AS IF IT'S MADE FROM THE LAND ITSELF!


AND...YES, THAT'S SNOWBIRD IN THE MIDST OF THAT SWIRLING BLACK CLOUD.
I'M NOT SURE HOW SHE GOT HERE, BUT SHE DEFINITELY LOOKS LIKE SHE NEEDS HELP...
AND MY LOCALIZED ELECTRO-MAGNETIC CONTROL SHOULD BE JUST THE TICKET.


VINDICATOR!
A PLASMA FUNNEL!


ANOTHER PRESUMPTUOUS MORTAL? I SENSE YOU HAVE NOT THE FEMALE'S LINK WITH THE GODS. YOUR DEATH WILL BE A SIMPLE THING INDEED...
HOLY!
IT'S HURLING THE ROCKS AND EARTH OF ITS OWN BODY!

AND, AS VINDICATOR'S FORCE FIELD PULVERIZES THE EARTHEN PROJECTILES...

IT IS EVEN WORSE THAN I FEARED.

THIS BEAST IS KNOWN TO ME, SPOKEN OF IN DARK LEGENDS. LEGENDS OF UNSPEAKABLE EVIL THAT SURROUND ITS VERY NAME.

*TUNDRA!* IT IS A SARCEE MEDICINE-CHIEF WHO SPEAKS NOW TO YOU. MINE IS THE POWER TO REASON WITH THE MORTAL MIND WITHIN YOU!

FOOL!

TUNDRA IS BEYOND HUMAN WEAKNESS AND FRAILTY NOW. MY STRENGTH IS MY OWN, AND GROWS WITH EVERY PASSING MOMENT.

THE GREAT FOOT RISES...

THE BEAST SPEAKS TRUE! THE SPIRIT OF THE MORTAL WHO MUST HAVE STARTED THIS IS GONE! WHAT A TINY, SHRIVELLED THING IT MUST HAVE BEEN, SO SOON TO HAVE RELINQUISHED CONTROL.

TUNDRA ALONE REMAINS.

THOOM!

ABOVE...

OBVIOUSLY REASON ISN'T GOING TO WORK AGAINST THIS MONSTER, SHAMAN.

LET'S SEE IF ONE OF MY ELECTRO-MAGNETIC ZAPS WILL SLOW IT DOWN.

SCIENCE MEETS SORCERY WITH SPECTACULAR RESULTS...

THE BEAST SCREAMS

AND THE LAND ECHOES ITS AGONY.

FOR A HUNDRED MILES AROUND THE TERRAIN HEAVES AND TEARS...

VINDICATOR NO TUNDRA IS ONE WITH THE LAND USE YOUR TECHNOLOGICAL FORCES AGAINST HIM...

...AND YOU MAY SHATTER ALL OF CANADA!

WHAT? BUT... IF HE'S THAT POWERFUL, HOW ARE WE GOING TO STOP HIM?

STOP ME? YOU CANNOT STOP ME, PUNY MORTALS!

I AM THE POWER OF THE LAND ITSELF. MY STRENGTH IS OF THE ROCK AND SOIL, THE MOUNTAINS AND THE THUNDERING RIVERS. MY LIFE IS OF THE TREES AND GRASSES, THE BEASTS OF ALL THE NORTH.

AS IF TO DEMONSTRATE THE TERRIBLE TRUTH OF ITS WORDS, THE MONSTER TURNS....

THE EARTH TREMBLES BENEATH ITS FOOTFALLS, AS EACH STRIDE CONSUMES A THOUSAND YARDS.....

AND, AS IT WALKS...

TUNDRA GROWS!

THEN, ALMOST TOO SMALL TO BE NOTICED BY THE BEHEMOTH...

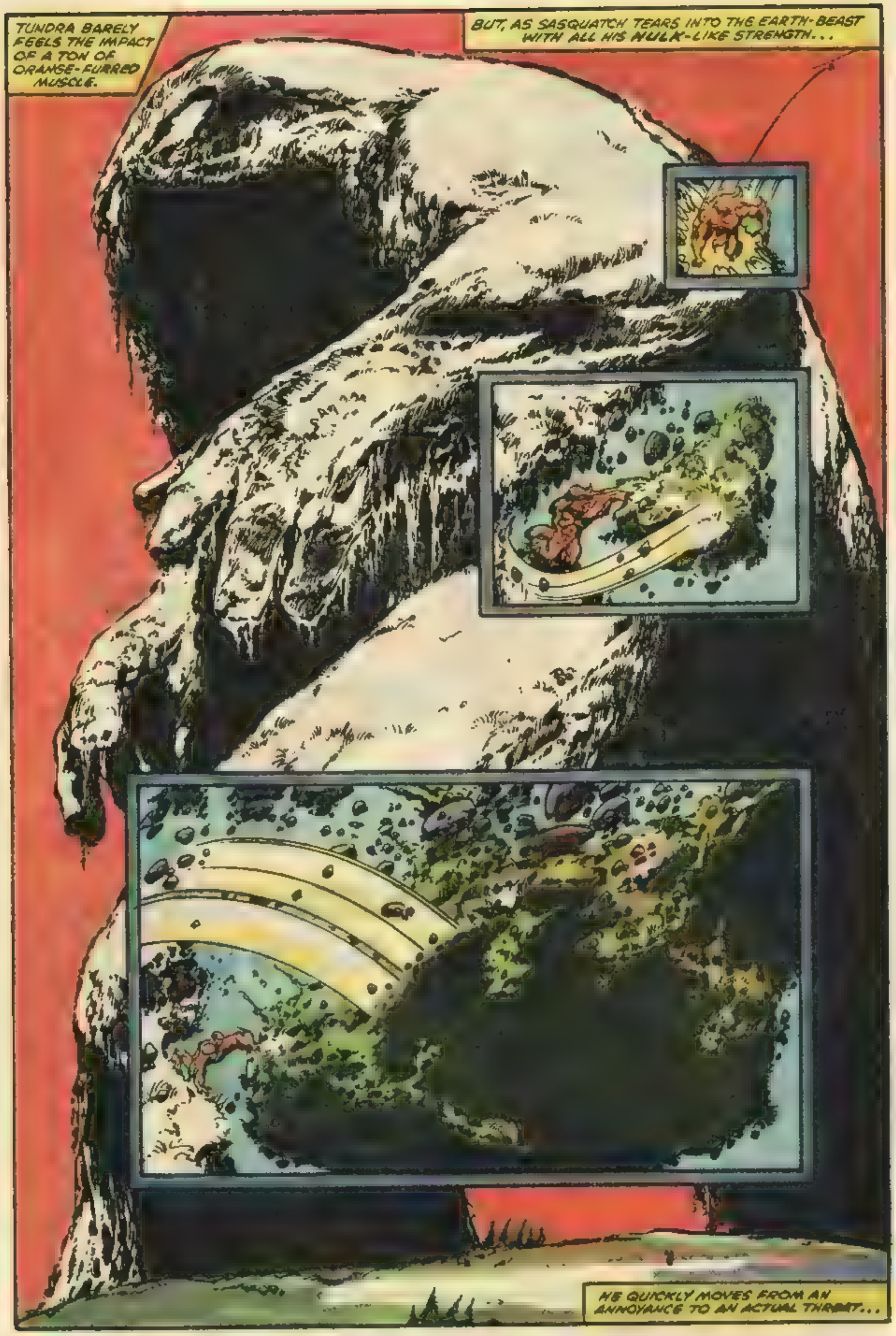
A CANADIAN ARMED FORCES HELICOPTER MOVES CLOSER...

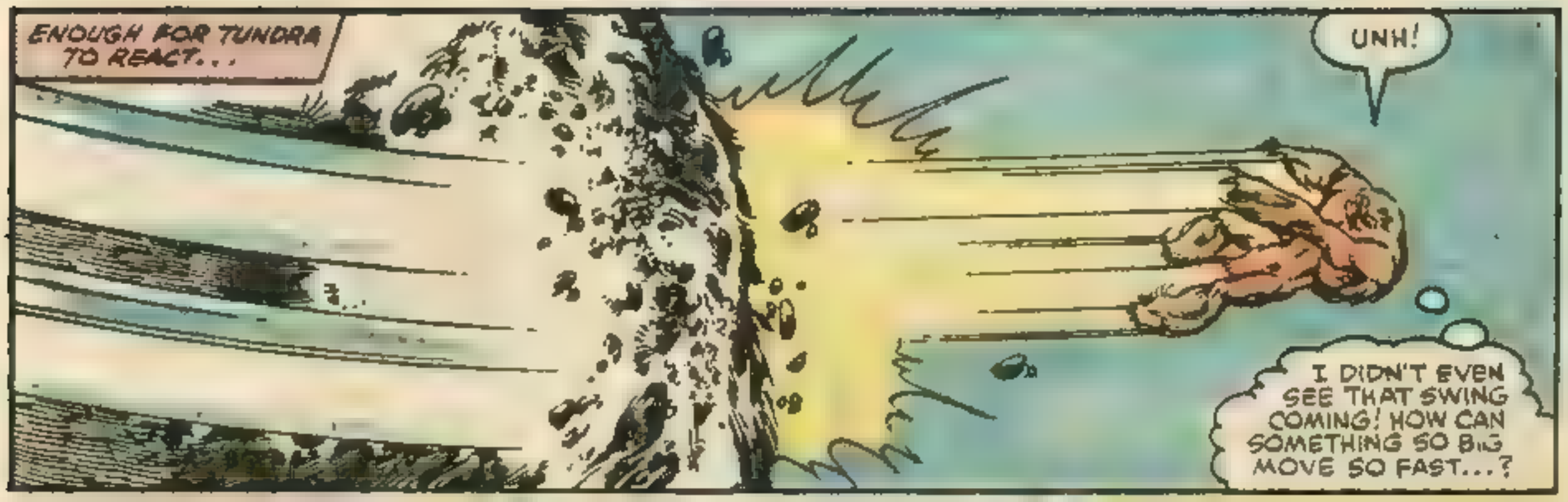
AND DISGORGES A VERY SPECIAL PASSENGER.

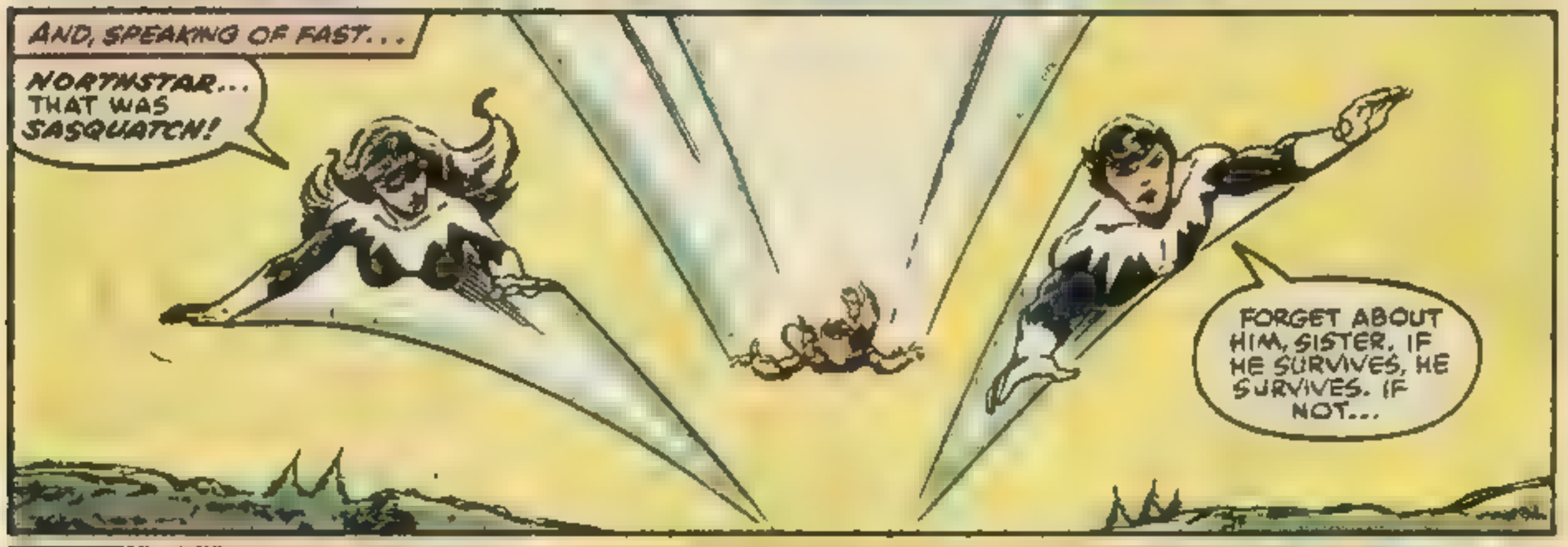
SASQUATCH HAS ARRIVED!

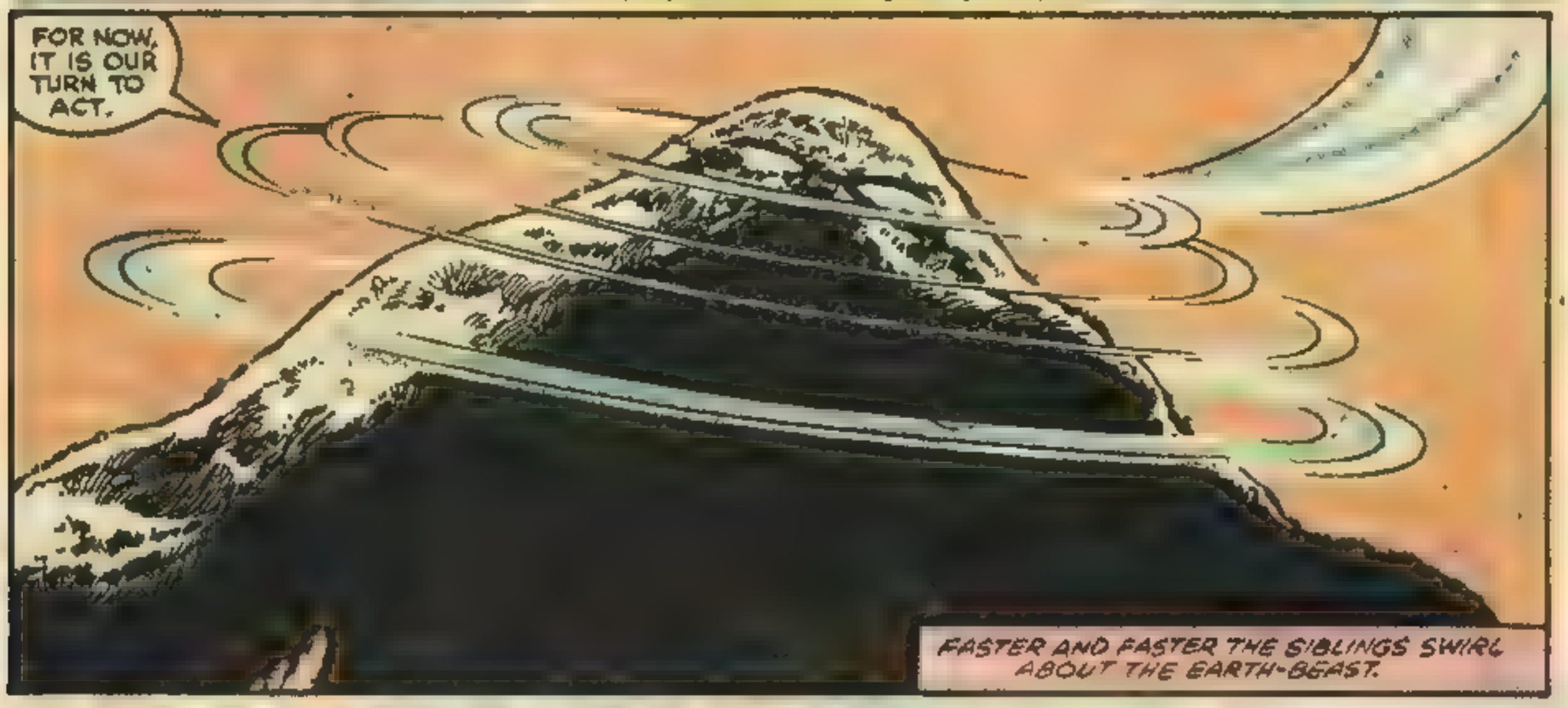
AT LAST!

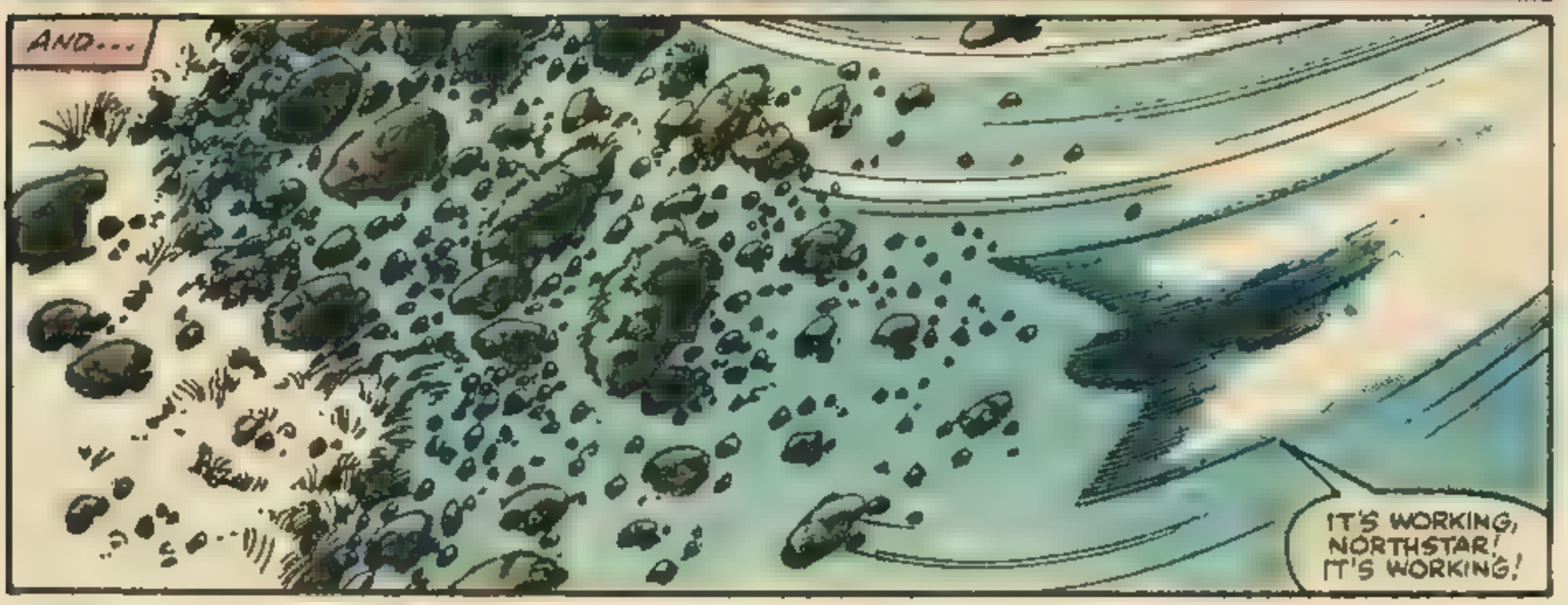
SOMETHING BIG ENOUGH TO REALLY TEST MY STRENGTH!

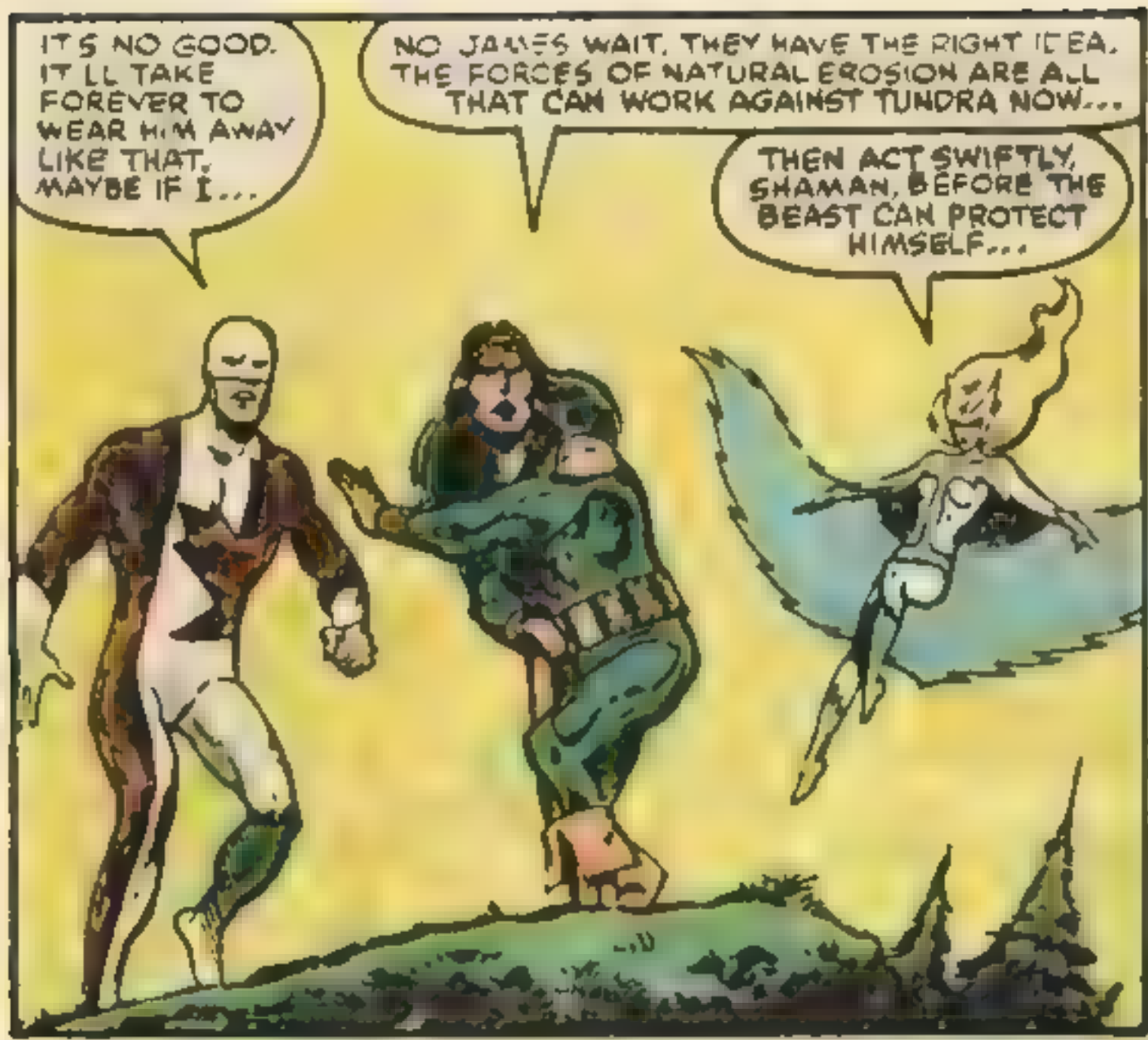

TUNDRA BARELY FEELS THE IMPACT OF A TON OF ORANGE-FURRED MUSCLE.
BUT, AS SASQUATCH TEARS INTO THE EARTH-BEAST WITH ALL HIS HULK-LIKE STRENGTH...
HE QUICKLY MOVES FROM AN ANNOYANCE TO AN ACTUAL THREAT...

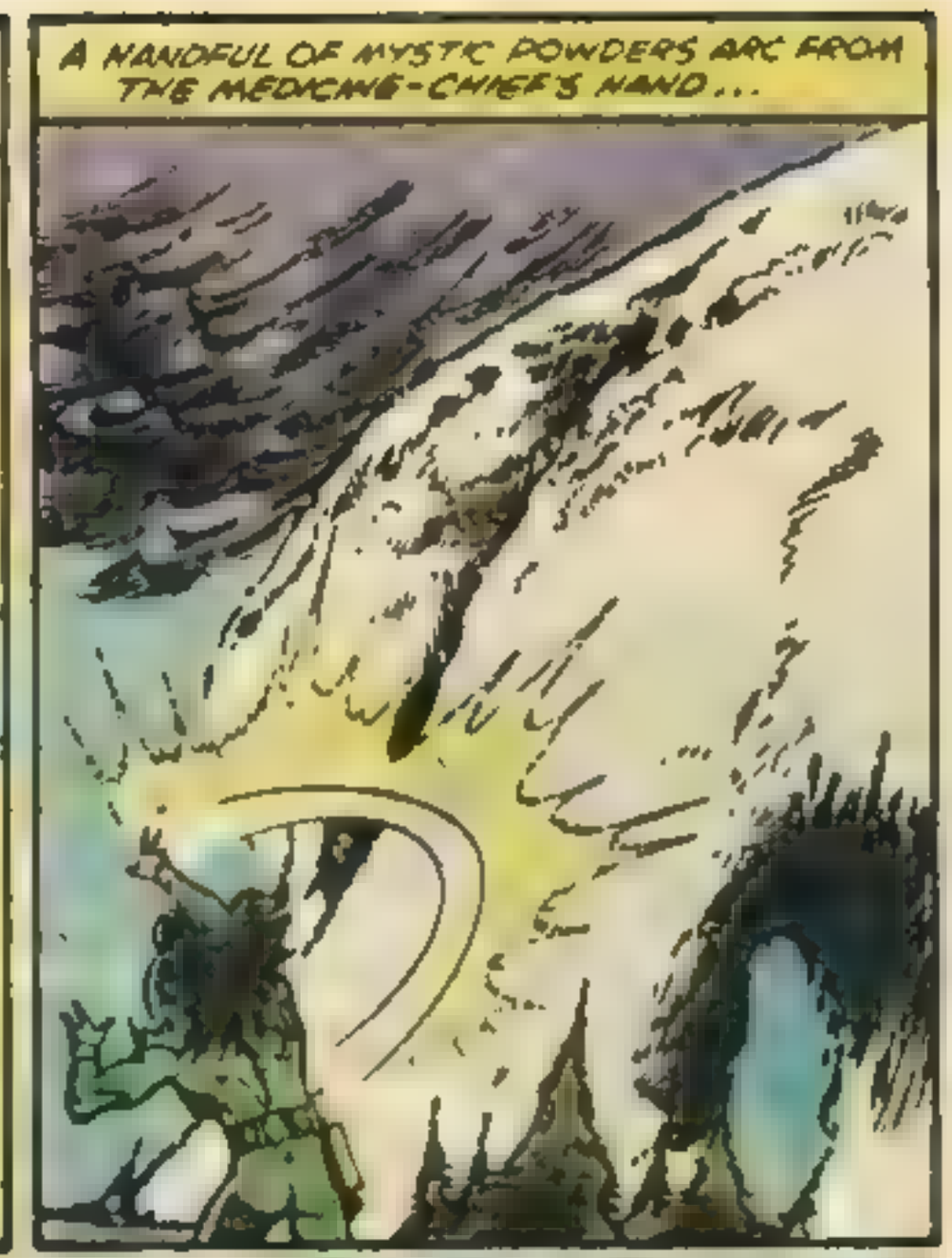

ENOUGH FOR TUNDRA TO REACT...
UNH!
I DIDN'T EVEN SEE THAT SWING COMING! HOW CAN SOMETHING SO BIG MOVE SO FAST...?


AND, SPEAKING OF FAST...
NORTHSTAR... THAT WAS SASQUATCH!
FORGET ABOUT HIM, SISTER. IF HE SURVIVES, HE SURVIVES. IF NOT...

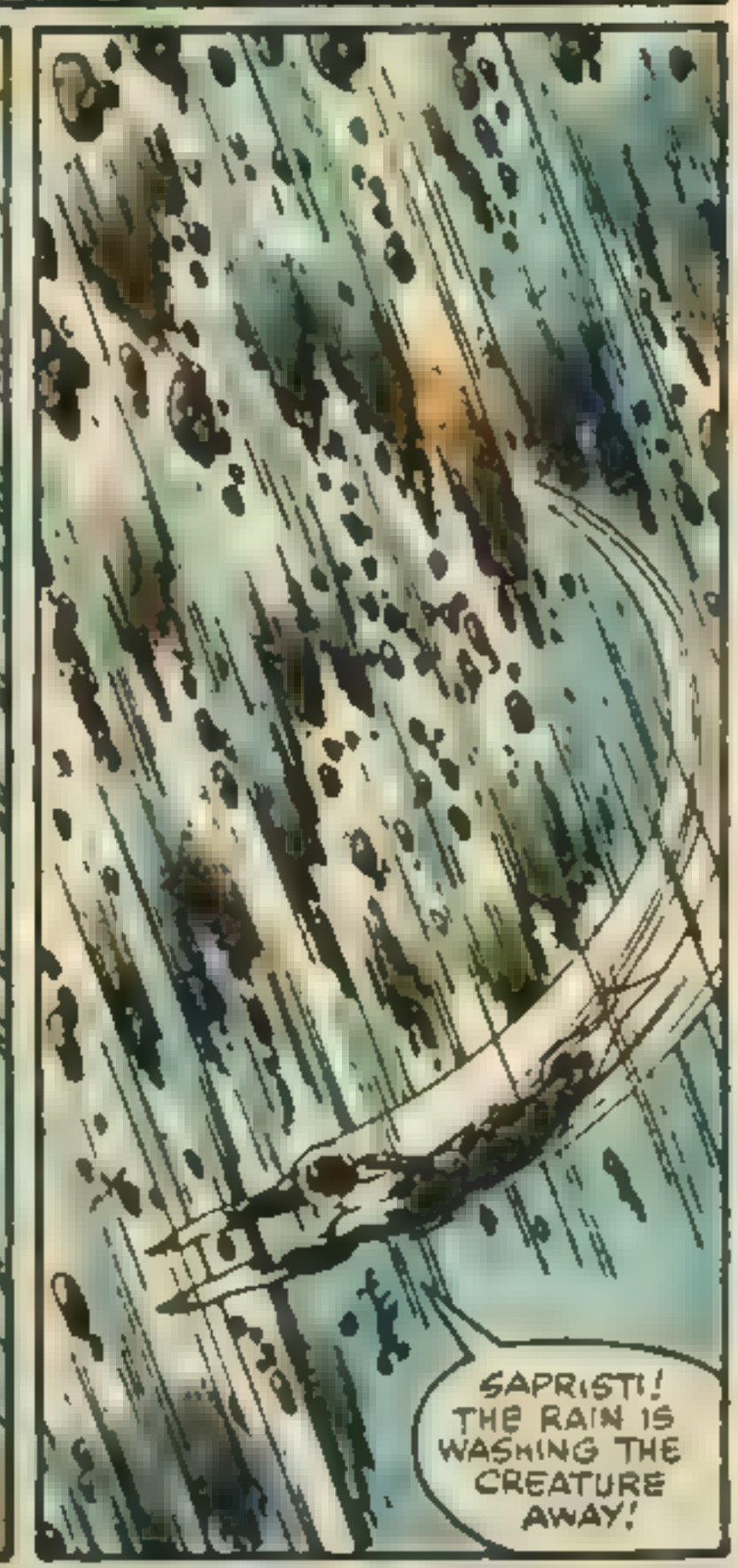

FOR NOW, IT IS OUR TURN TO ACT.
FASTER AND FASTER THE SIBLINGS SWIRL ABOUT THE EARTH-BEAST.


AND...
IT'S WORKING, NORTHSTAR! IT'S WORKING!


IT'S NO GOOD. IT'LL TAKE FOREVER TO WEAR HIM AWAY LIKE THAT. MAYBE IF I...
NO JAMES WAIT. THEY HAVE THE RIGHT IDEA. THE FORCES OF NATURAL EROSION ARE ALL THAT CAN WORK AGAINST TUNDRA NOW...
THEN ACT SWIFTLY, SHAMAN, BEFORE THE BEAST CAN PROTECT HIMSELF...


A HANDFUL OF MYSTIC POWDERS ARC FROM THE MEDICINE-CHIEF'S HAND...

ABOVE THE MONSTER FLUFFY, WHITE CLOUDS DARKEN AND GROW ANGRY..
THEN...
N-NO ..


SAPRISTI! THE RAIN IS WASHING THE CREATURE AWAY!

YOU'RE DOING IT, MICHAEL! THE MONSTER ISN'T YET STRONG ENOUGH TO RESIST.
BUT IT IS INSUFFICIENT, JAMES. THE BEAST EVEN NOW REPLENISHES HIMSELF, AND THERE IS NOT ENOUGH WATER IN THE AIR TO CONJURE A SECOND DELUGE...
WAIT.. BOTH OF YOU... LOOK!

IT .. IT LOOKS LIKE A WATER-SPOUT, BUT IT CAN'T BE! WE'RE MILES FROM OPEN WATER!

YES .. JUST UNDER THREE MILES.

AND THAT'S ABOUT HER RANGE BUT..

WHAT THE HECK IS SHE DOING HERE?

NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THAT HER ARRIVAL IS A GODSEND.

I THINK YOU'LL FIND ALL THE WATER YOU NEED IN THAT SPOUT, MICHAEL. DON'T WASTE A DROP

ABOVE ..

VIND CATOR IS FLYING STRAIGHT TOWARDS THAT SPOUT.

SOMEHOW I SUSPECT HE DOES NOT WISH THE MONSTER TO SEE IT.

AND THAT WE CAN EASILY ARRANGE, N'EST CE-PAS?

THE TWINS LINK HANDS

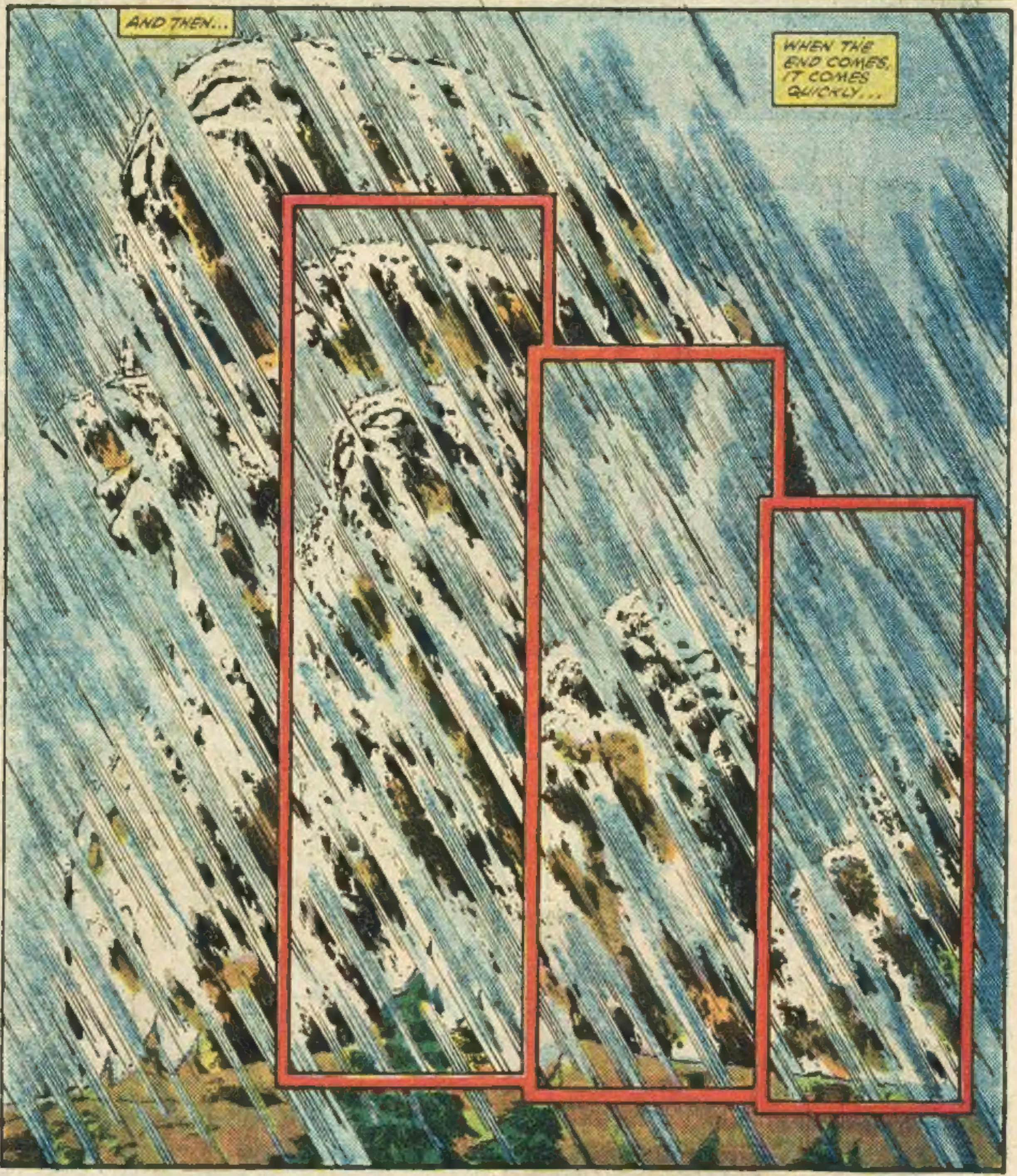
AND A LIGHT LIKE A WALL OF FLASH-BULBS BURSTING AT ONCE FLOODS THE LAND

GOOD NORTHSTAR AND AURORA HAVE DISTRACTED THE CREATURE..

NOW TO REEL IN OUR PRIZE FISH...

VIND CATOR

SHAMAN CONJURES A SECOND TIME...
ARCANE POWDERS MINGLE WITH THE VERY SUBSTANCE OF THE AIR...
...REACHING OUT TO MAGRINA'S WATER-SPOUT, SEIZING IT...


AND THEN...
WHEN THE END COMES, IT COMES QUICKLY...

AS SUDDENLY AS HE WAS CREATED, TUNDRA IS GONE. AN EERIE PEACE SETTLES SLOWLY ACROSS THE LAND.

WHERE THE MONSTER STOOD A SMALL SALT LAKE SLOWLY SEEPS INTO THE GROUND...

AND, AT THE BOTTOM OF THAT LAKE...

THE DREAMS OF A SMALL MIND SINK INTO THE SALT-SOWN MIRE...

TWELVE HOURS LATER, DOWNSTAIRS AT 138A LAURIER DRIVE...

ANOTHER ONE!

GEORGES, HOW MANY OF THESE STRANGERS MUST WE SEE GOING TO THE HUDSONS' BEFORE YOU DO SOMETHING?

FRANCOIS... THEY PAY THEIR RENT ON TIME, THEY NEVER HAVE LOUD PARTIES ...THEY ARE NICE, NORMAL PEOPLE, FOR ANGLAIS.

LEAVE IT ALONE.

AND, UPSTAIRS...

ALL RIGHT, SHE CAN STAY, BUT I SWEAR IF I CATCH THAT... HUSSY MAKING GOO-GOO EYES AT YOU ONCE MORE...!

SHE WON'T, SHE WON'T. YOU HAVE TO BE PATIENT WITH AURORA, HONEY. SHE'S... TROUBLED...

IN THE LIVING ROOM...

FAMILY DISTURBANCES QUELLED FOR THE NONCE, JIM? GOOD. WE HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT I THINK WILL PLEASE YOU.

ANNOUNCEMENT?

YES, AN ANNOUNCEMENT, TO WIT: WE ALL WORK WELL TOGETHER, SO, GOVERNMENT OR NO, WE'VE DECIDED WE WANT TO *STAY* TOGETHER.

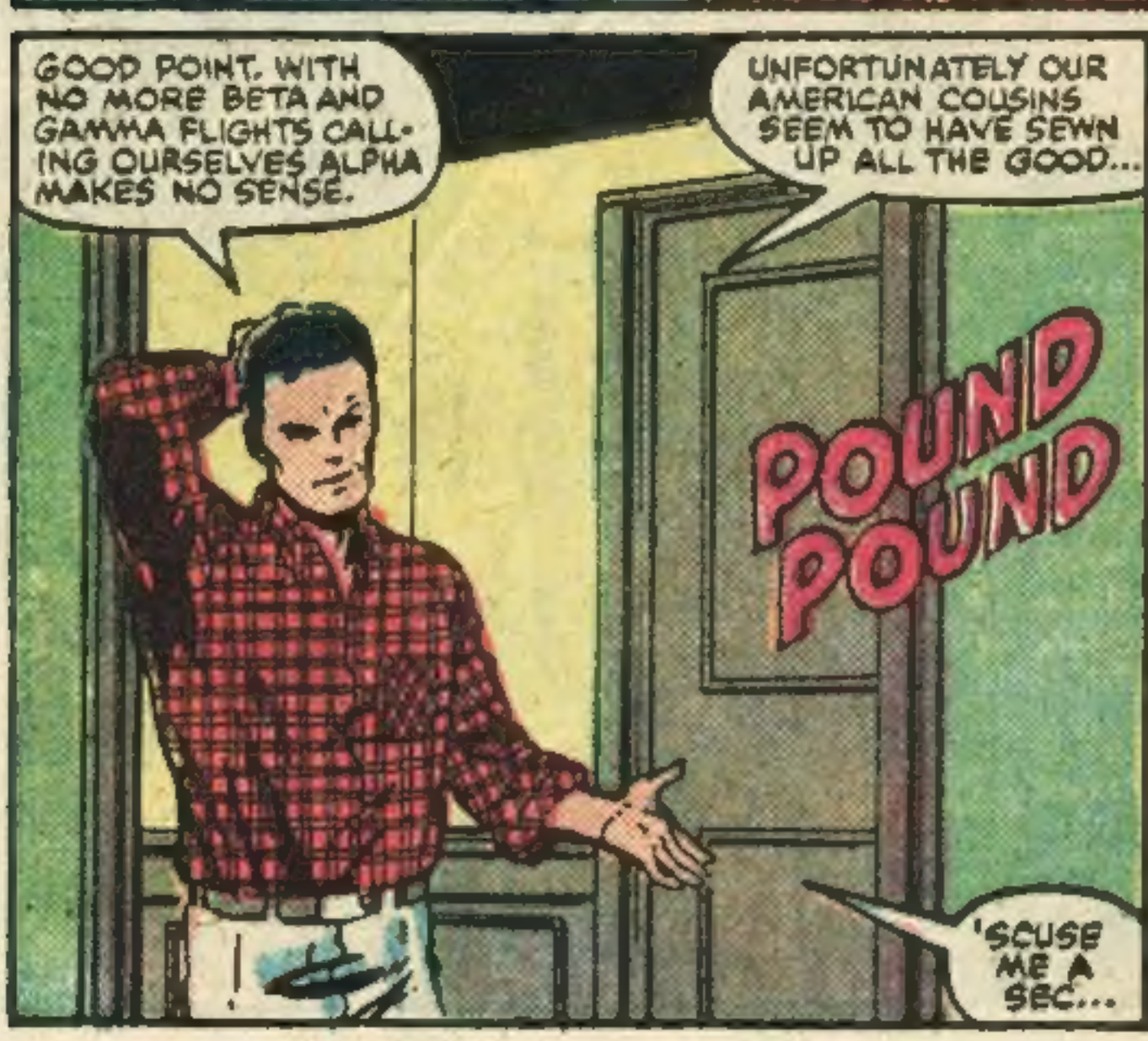
STAY? YOU MEAN... KEEP ALPHA FLIGHT GOING? JEAN-PAUL, EVEN YOU?

DO NOT SOUND SO SURPRISED, HUDSON. JEANNE-MARIE WISHES TO STAY. NATURALLY I STAY *AUSSI*.

BUT, IF WE'RE GOING TO CONTINUE WE'D BETTER GET SOME REAL ORGANIZATION GOING. WE WERE LUCKY THIS TIME.

*ANNE'S* RIGHT. SHE AND I SENSED THIS MENACE-- SHE AS *SNOWBIRD*--WITHOUT HEATHER'S EMERGENCY SIGNAL. BUT ALONE WE COULD NOT HAVE DEFEATED TUNDRA.

IT WAS BLIND LUCK THE GIRL MARRINA ARRIVED WHEN SHE DID. NEXT TIME WE'D BETTER PLAN MORE CAREFULLY.



JUDO! DON'T TELL ME YOU GOT HEATHER'S CALL TOO?
WHY NOT, EH? I WAS READY FOR THE FIRST TEAM, WASN'T I?

TRUE ENOUGH, FRIEND. COME ON IN AND MEET THE REST OF THE GANG.
WE'RE JUST TRYING TO DECIDE ON A NEW NAME FOR THE GROUP...
NEW NAME? HEY, I BUSTED MY BUNS TO BE IN ALPHA FLIGHT.

I WANNA BE IN ALPHA FLIGHT!!

RELAX, SHORT, BALD AND NASTY. ALPHA FLIGHT SOUNDS GOOD TO ME, TOO, AND WE CAN ALWAYS USE A MASCOT...
MASCOT!?!
WHY YOU OVERGROWN...

JUDO! WALT! NO! NOT HERE!
CRASH
FIGHT!

OH, LORD...
SUDDENLY I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS SUCH A GREAT IDEA...
THE BEGINNING...